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**Scheller et al.**

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(54) **STEERABLE LASER PROBE**

(56) **References Cited**

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(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 342 days.

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(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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**Related U.S. Application Data**

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**A61F 9/008** (2006.01)

**A61B 19/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ..... **A61B 18/22** (2013.01); **A61B 2018/2238** (2013.01); **A61B 2019/2242** (2013.01); **A61B 2019/2246** (2013.01); **A61F 9/008** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

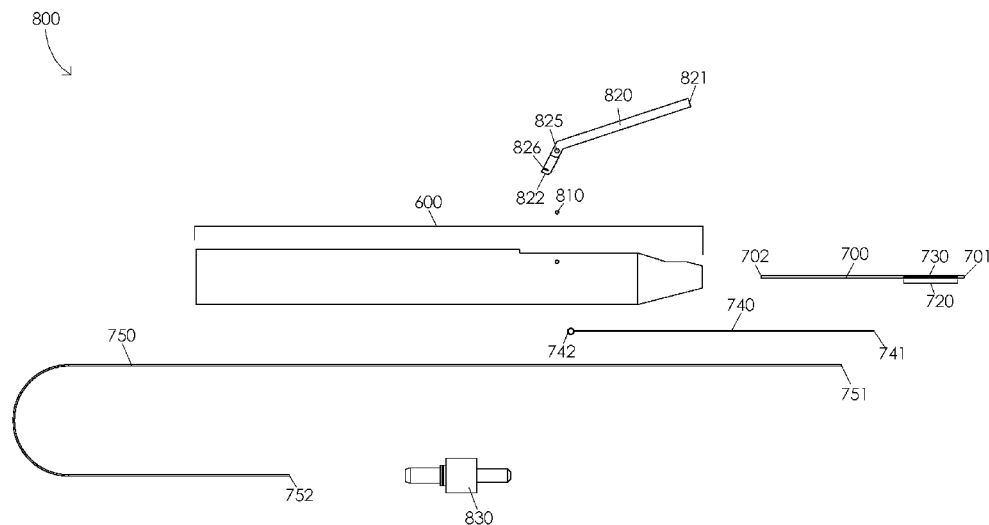
CPC ..... **A61F 9/008**; **A61B 2019/2242**; **A61B 2019/2246**

USPC ..... 606/1-19; 607/88-94  
See application file for complete search history.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A steerable laser probe may include a handle, an actuation lever, an optic fiber, and a housing tube. The housing tube may have a first housing tube portion having a first stiffness and a second housing tube portion having a second stiffness. The second stiffness may be greater than the first stiffness. The optic fiber may be disposed within the housing tube and within an inner bore of the handle. An actuation of the actuation lever about a pivot pin of the handle may gradually curve the optic fiber. An actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin of the handle may gradually straighten the optic fiber.

**19 Claims, 40 Drawing Sheets**



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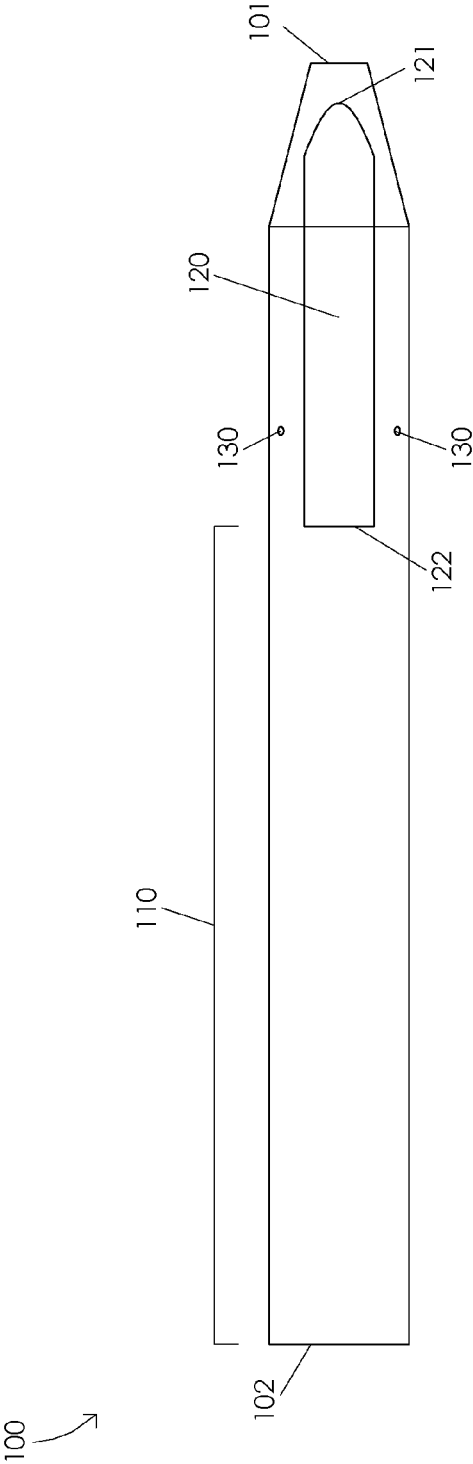


FIG. 1A

100

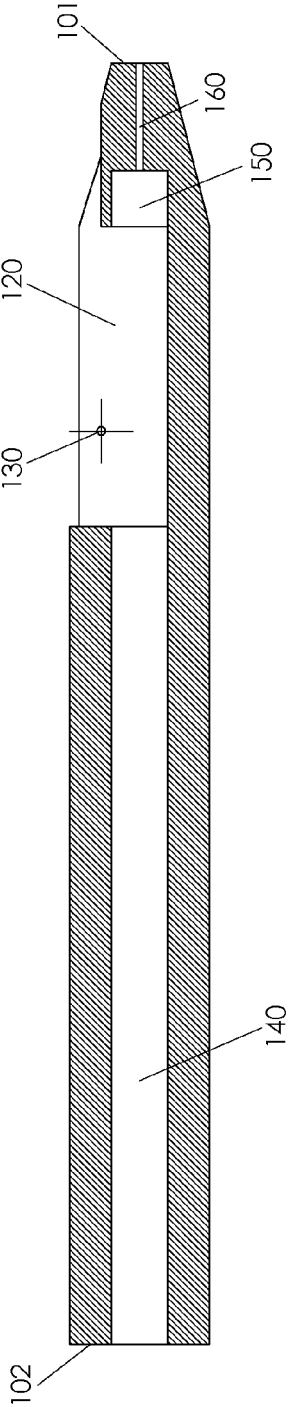


FIG. 1B

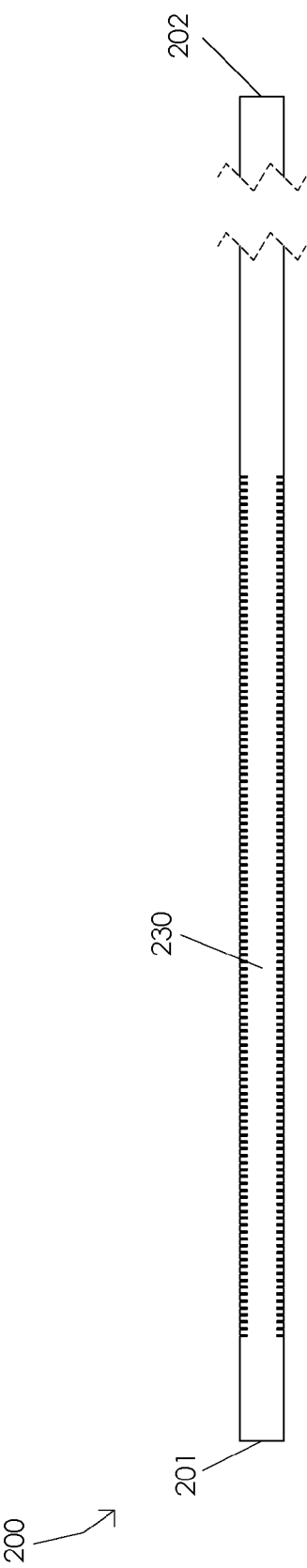


FIG. 2B

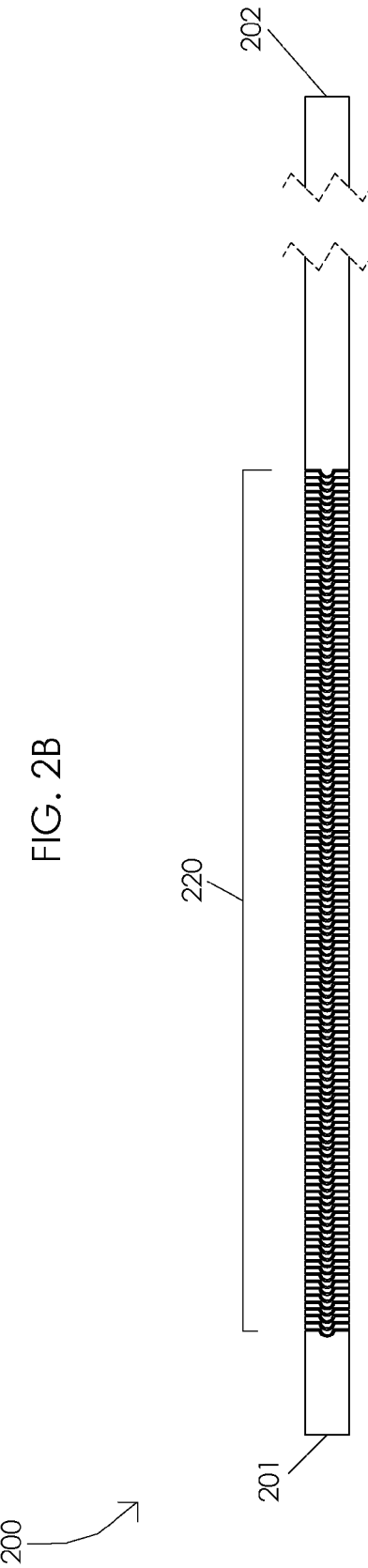


FIG. 2A

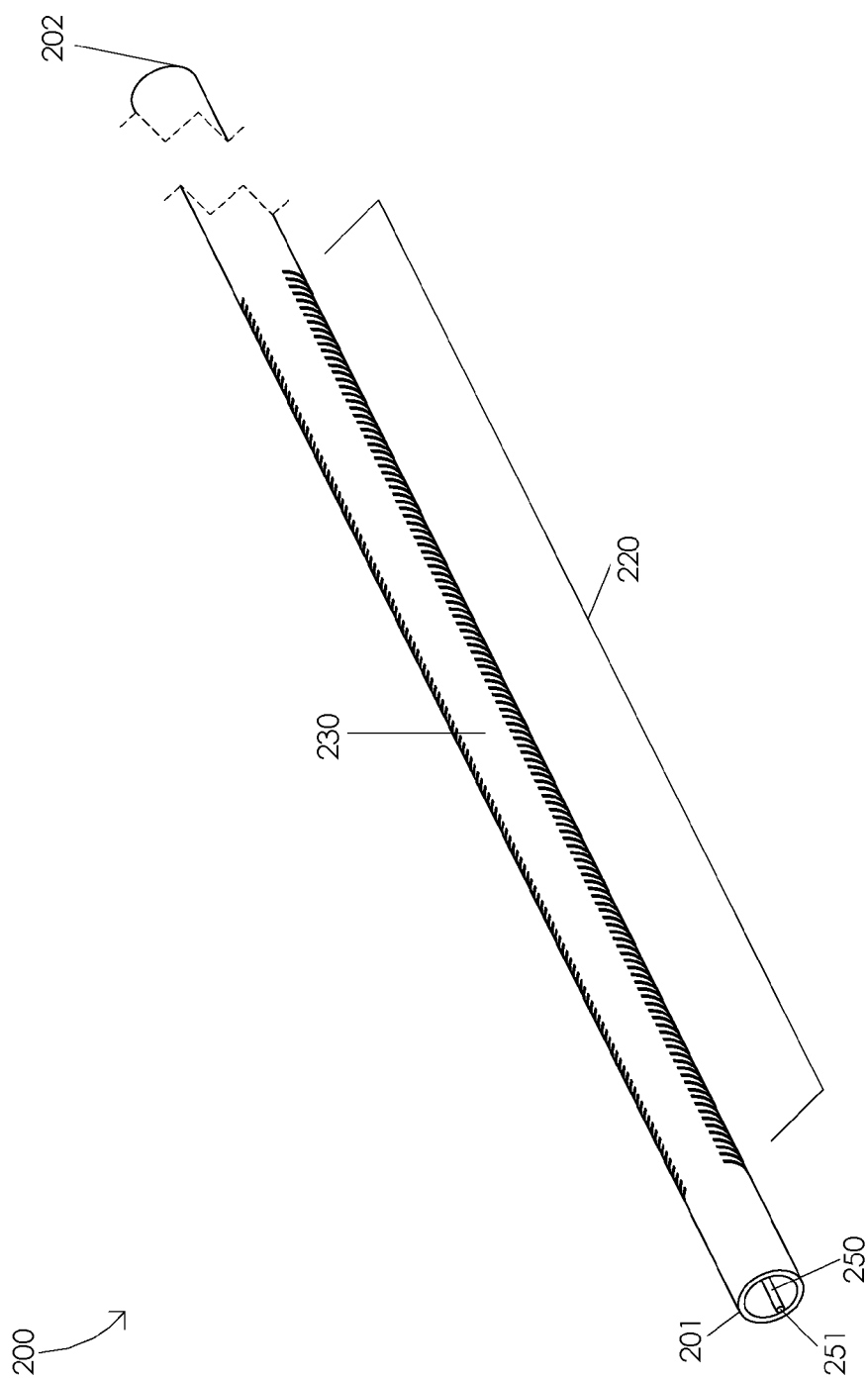


FIG. 2C

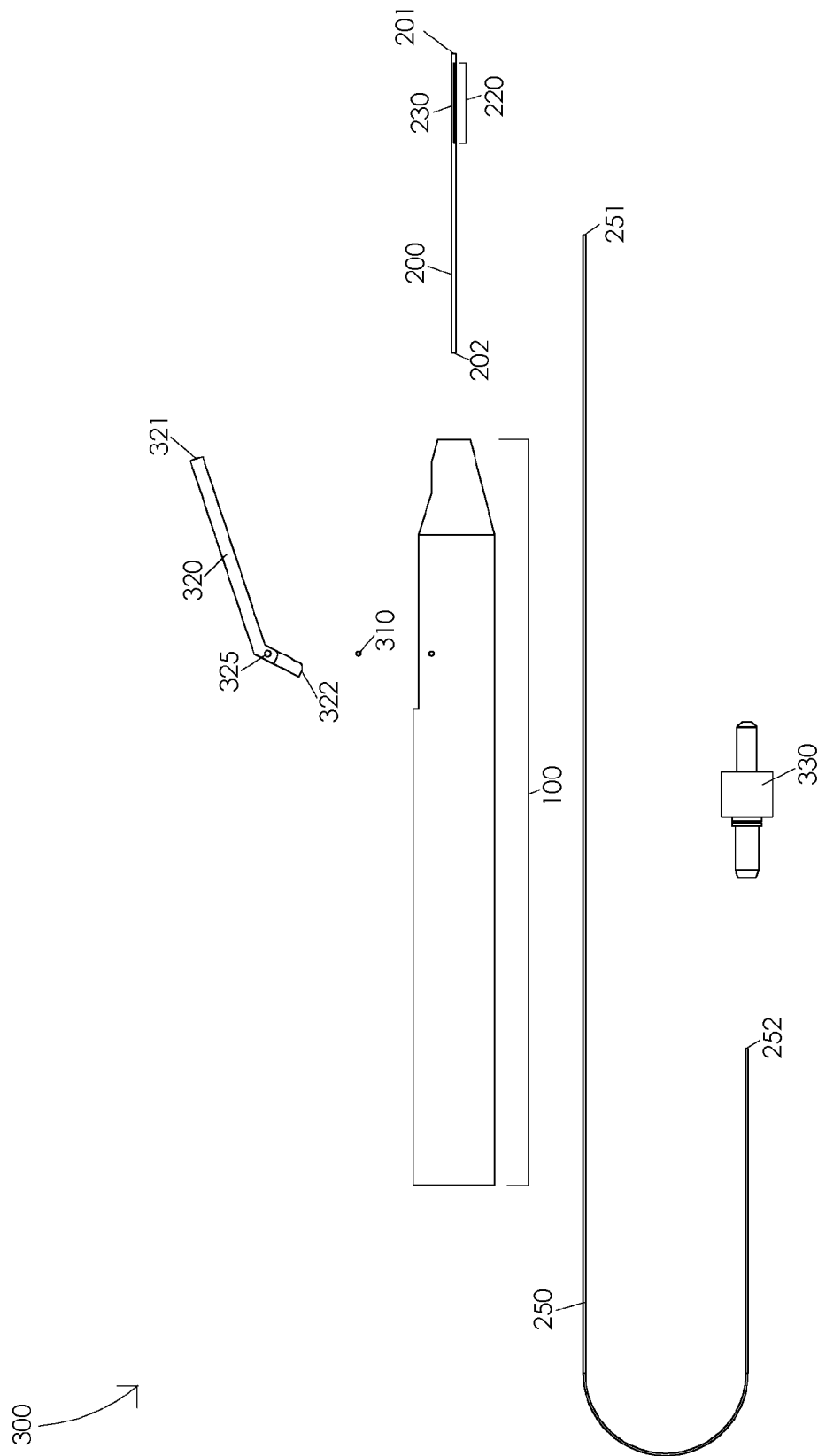


FIG. 3

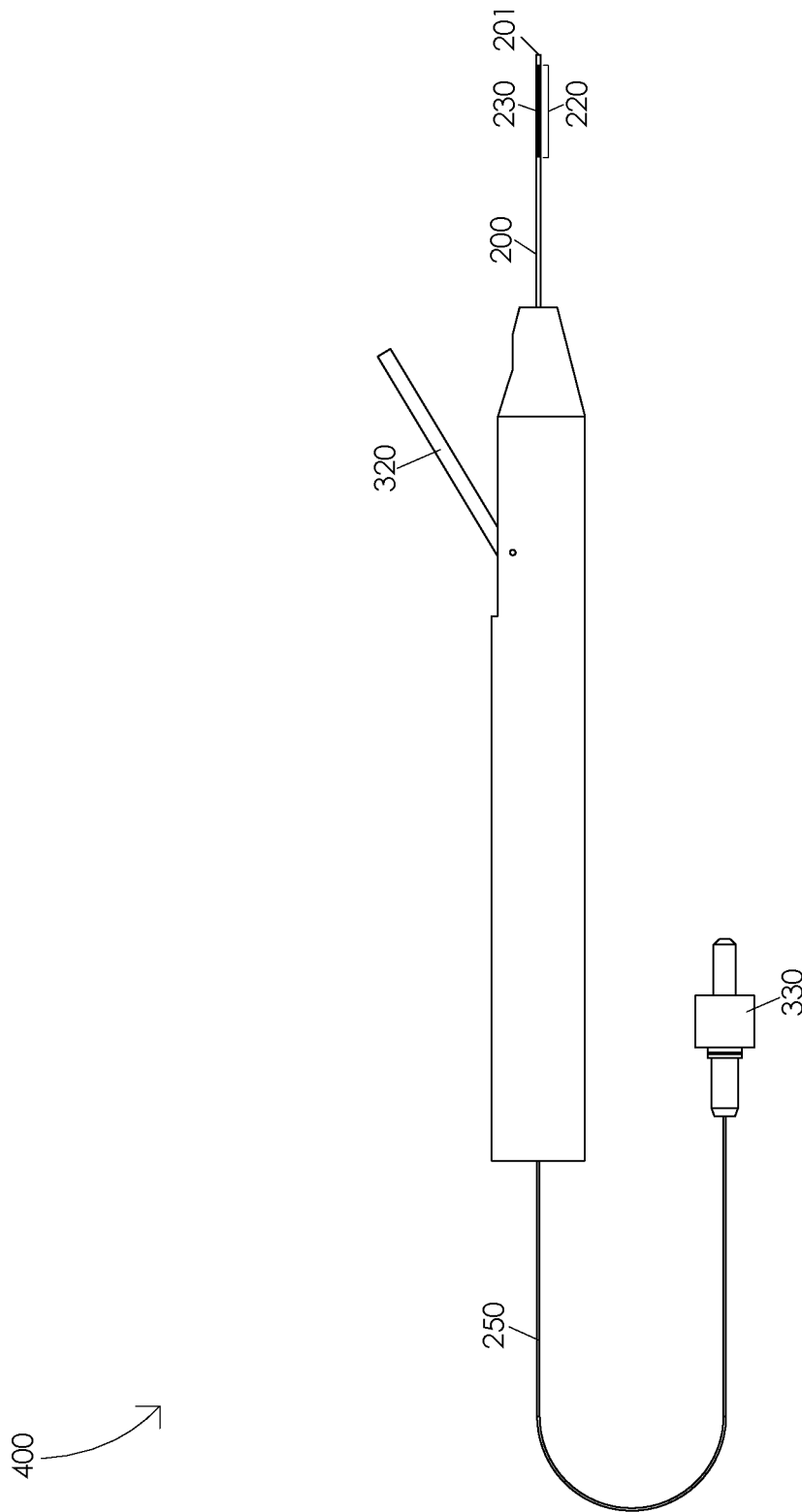


FIG. 4A

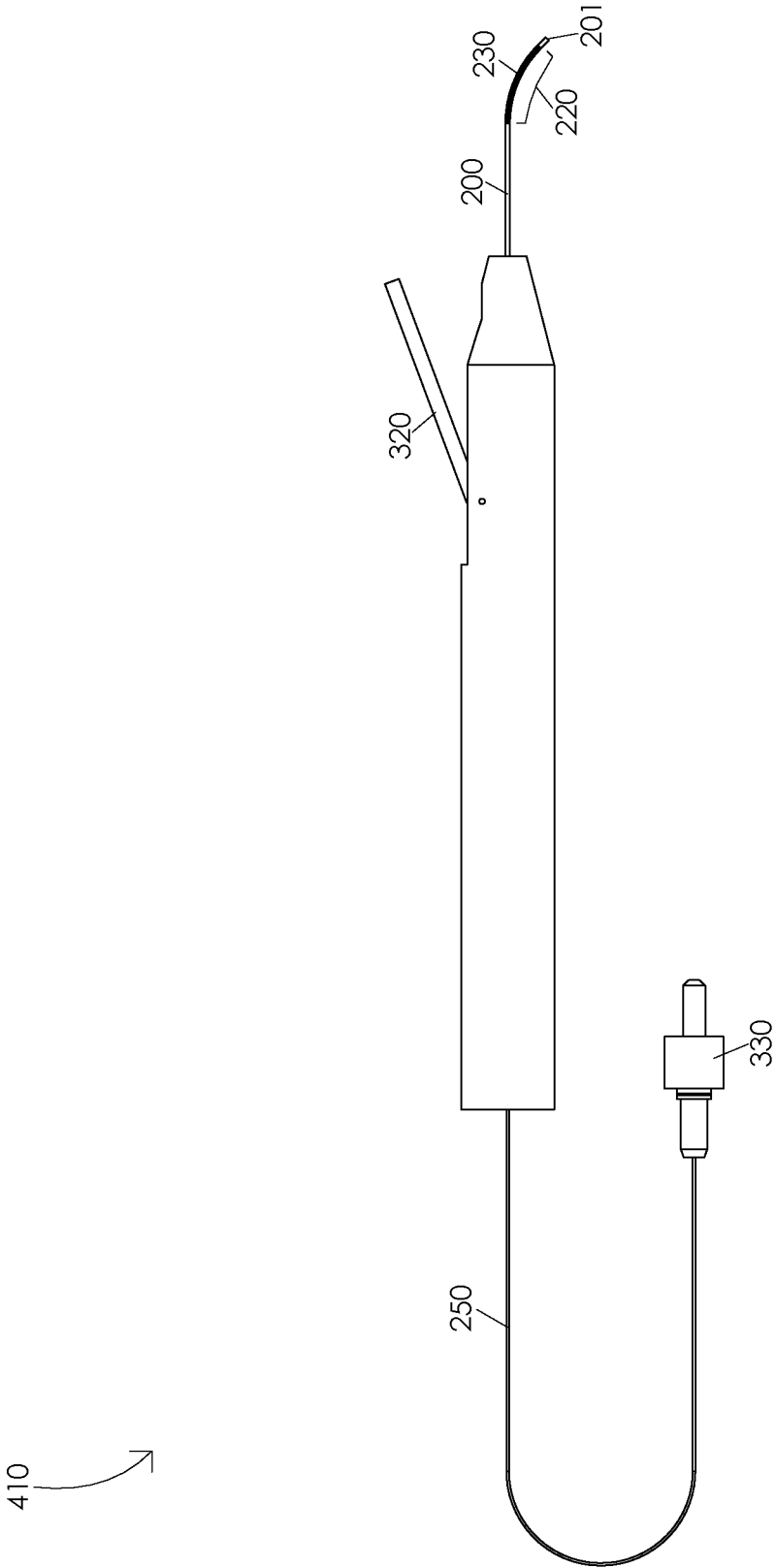


FIG. 4B



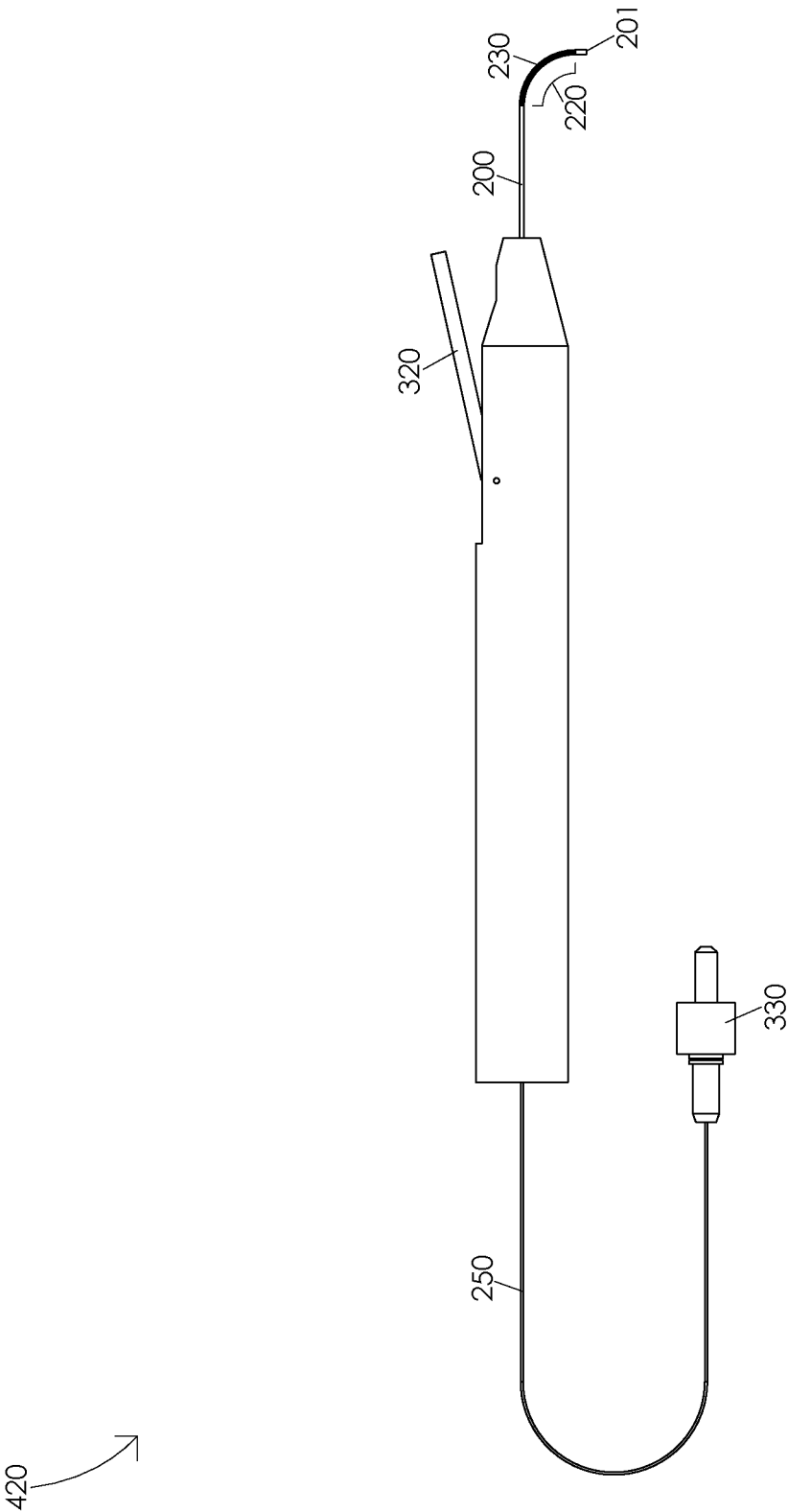


FIG. 4C

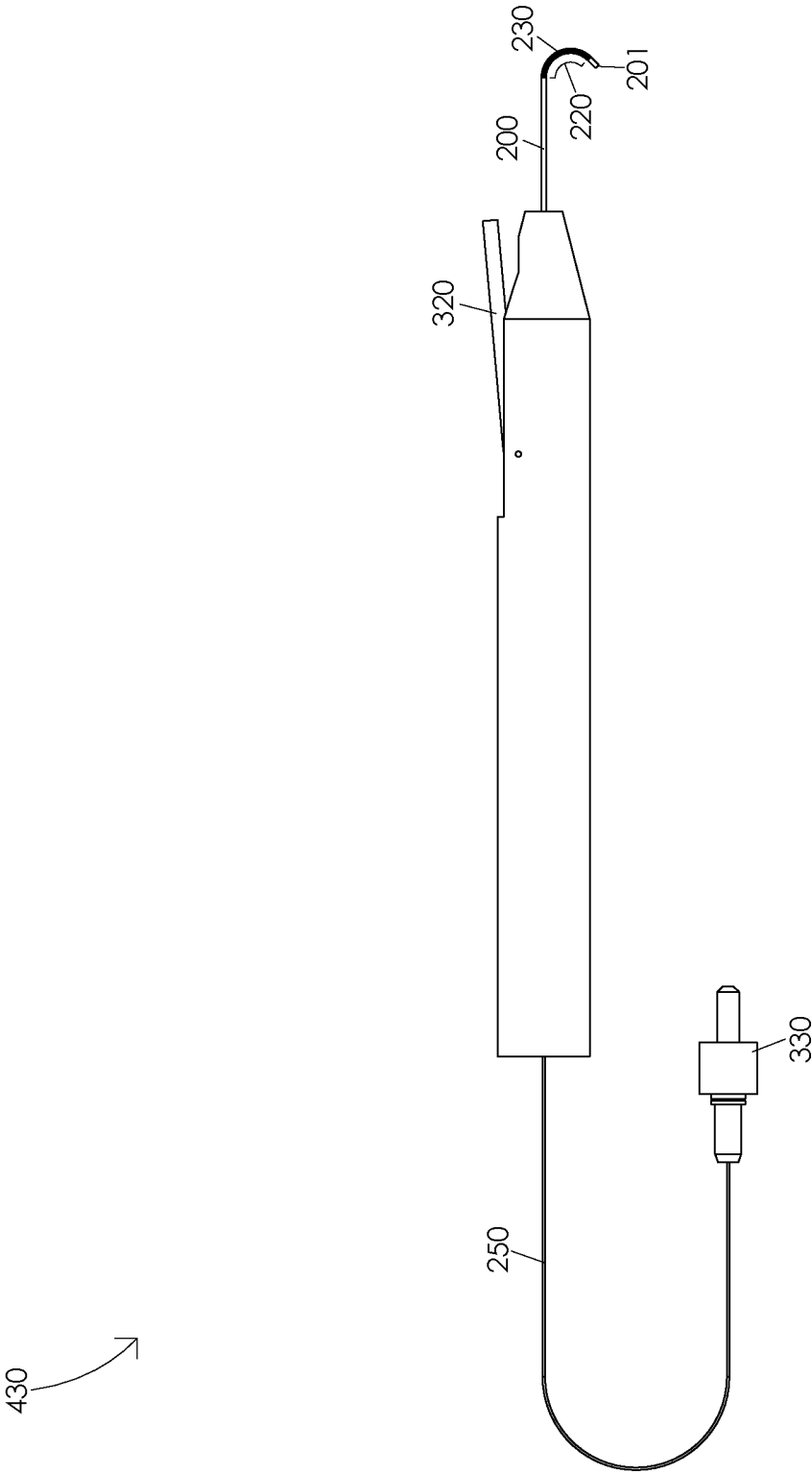


FIG. 4D

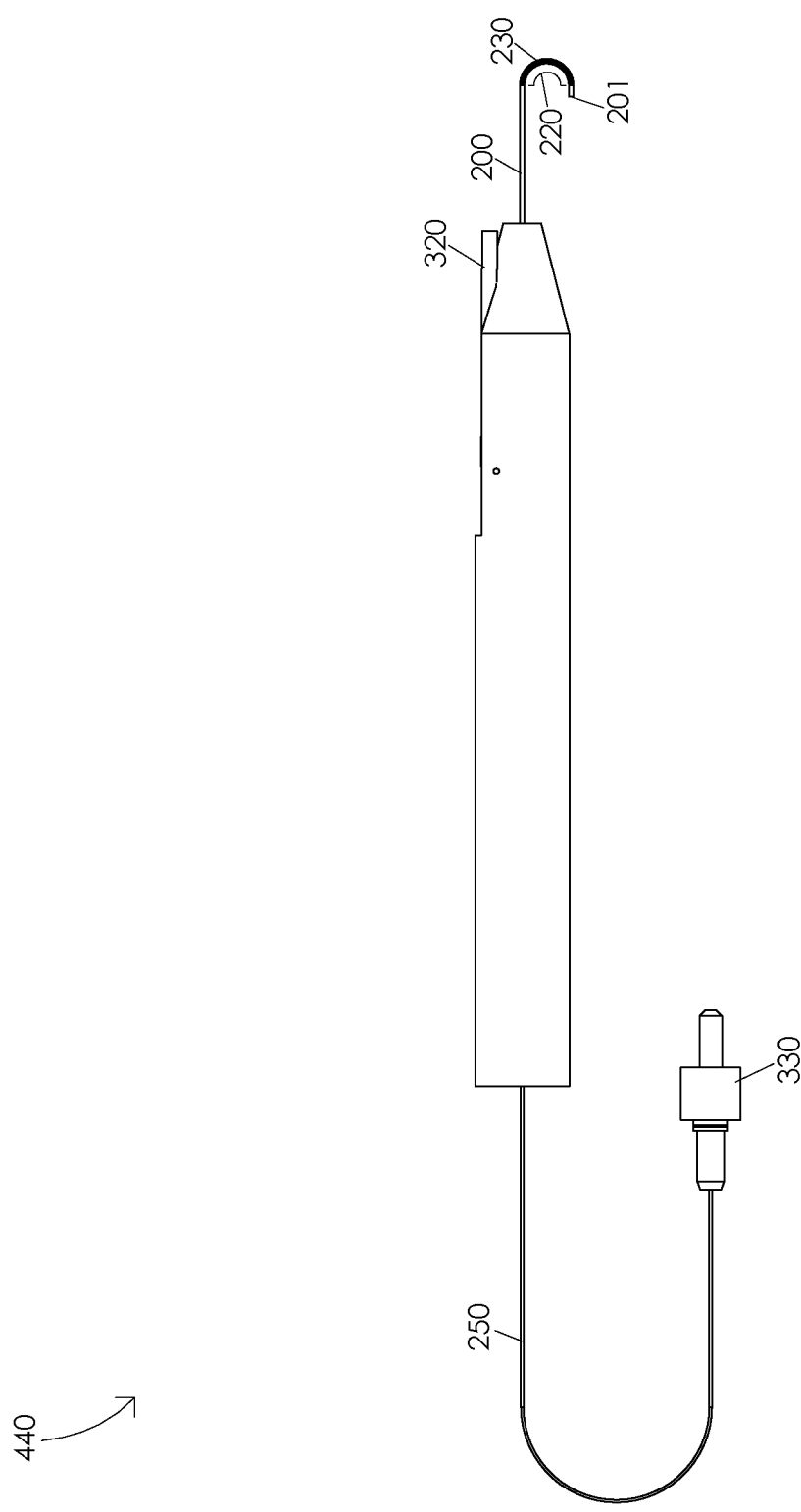


FIG. 4E

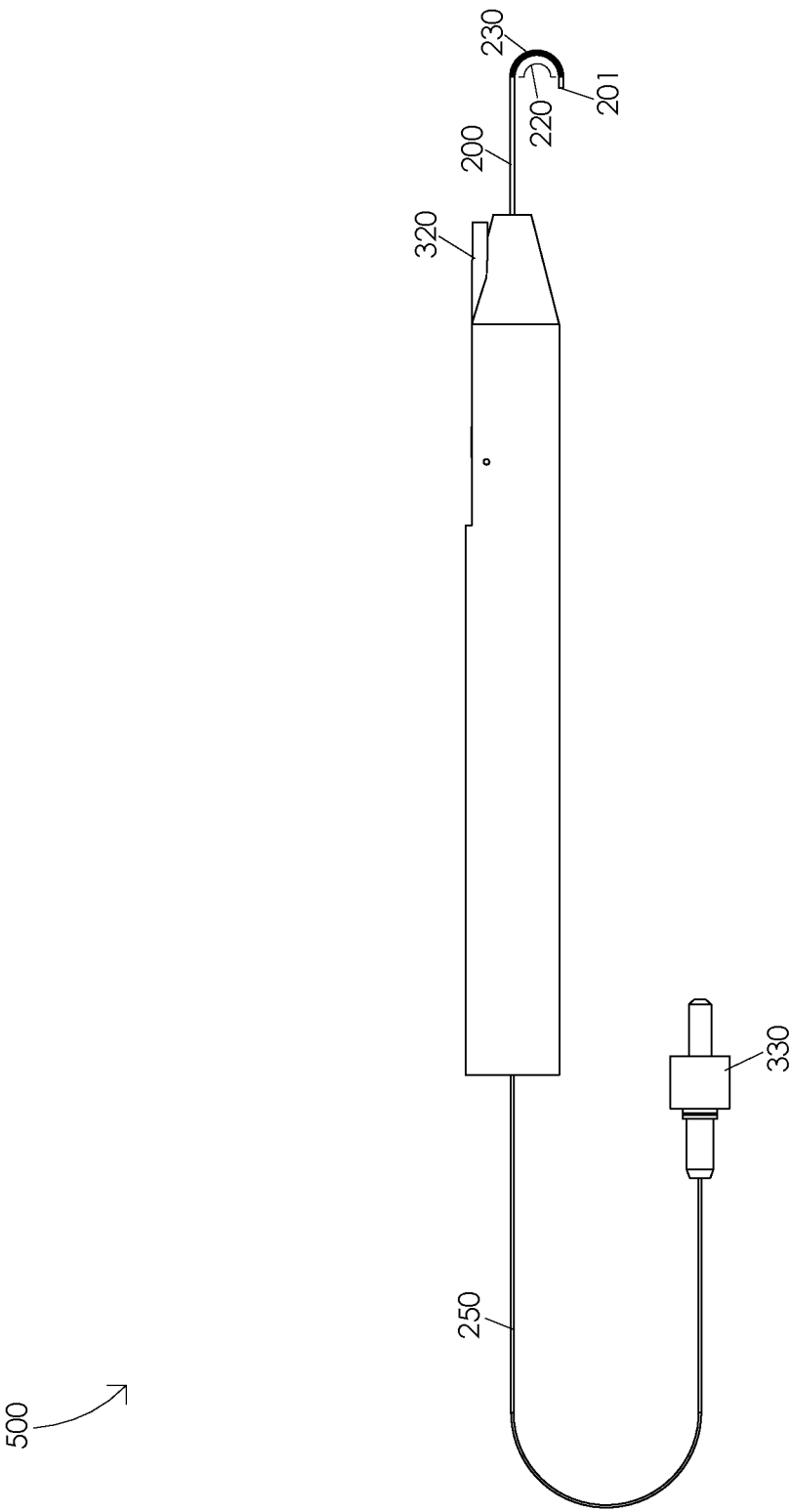


FIG. 5A

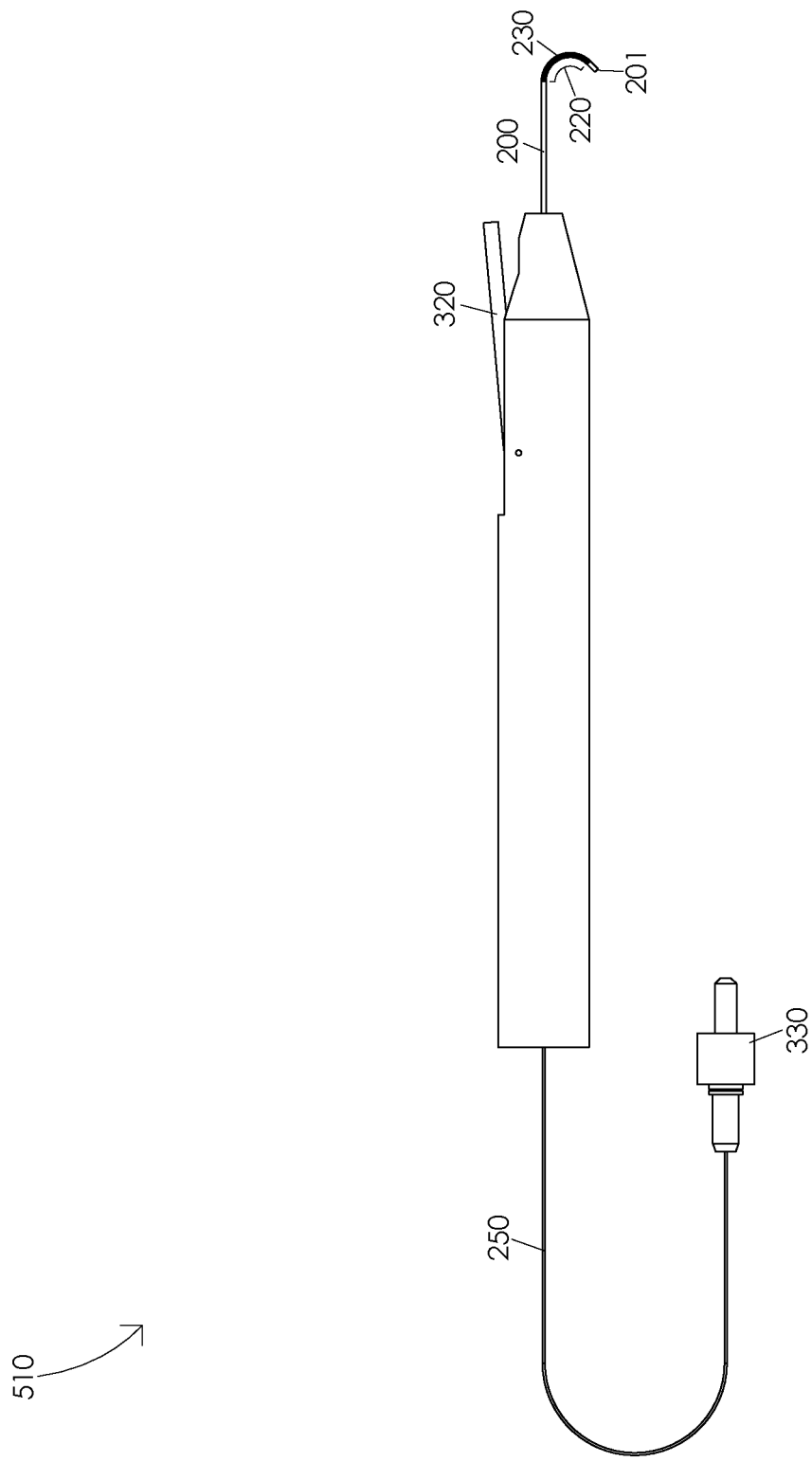


FIG. 5B

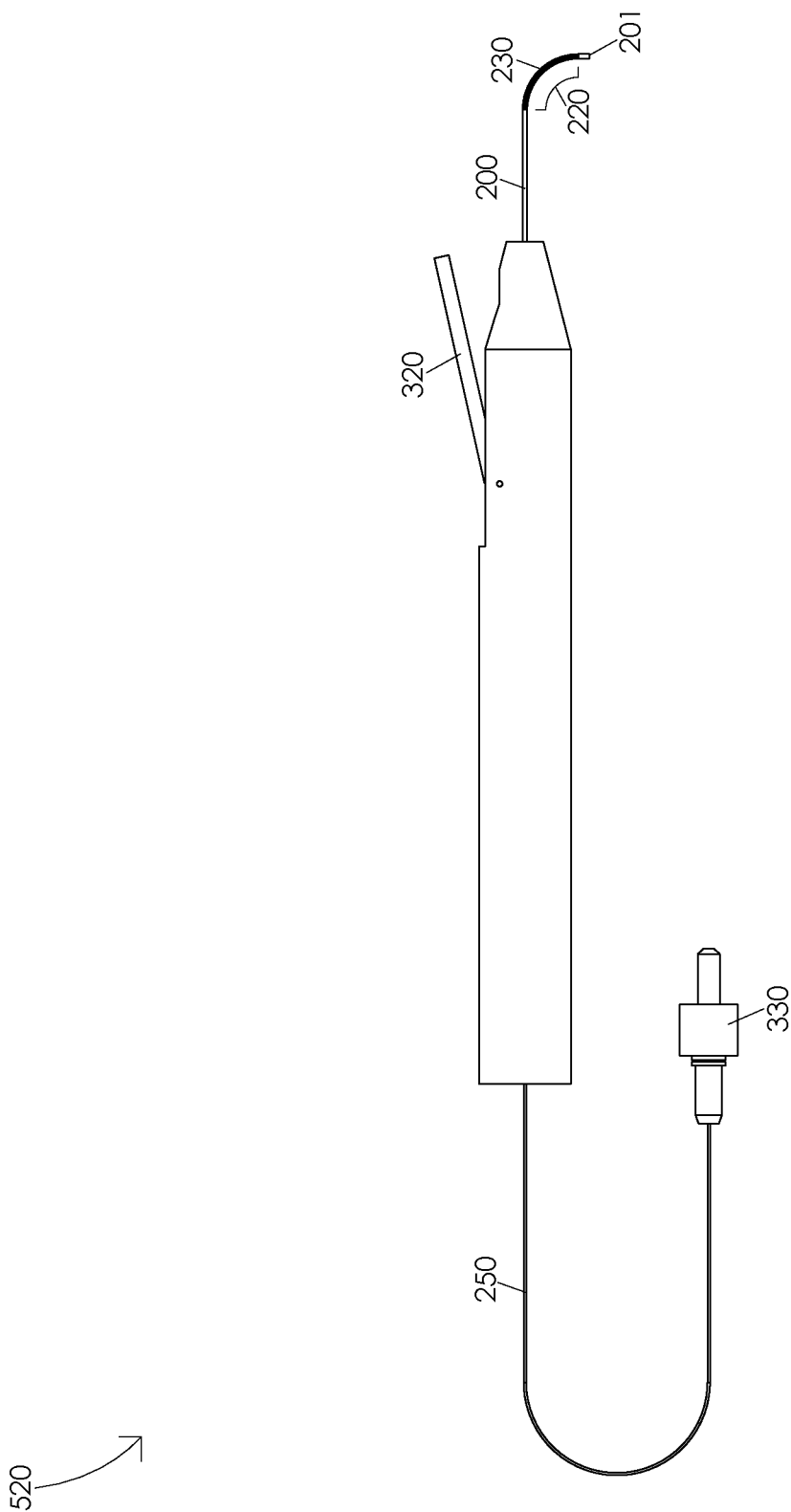


FIG. 5C

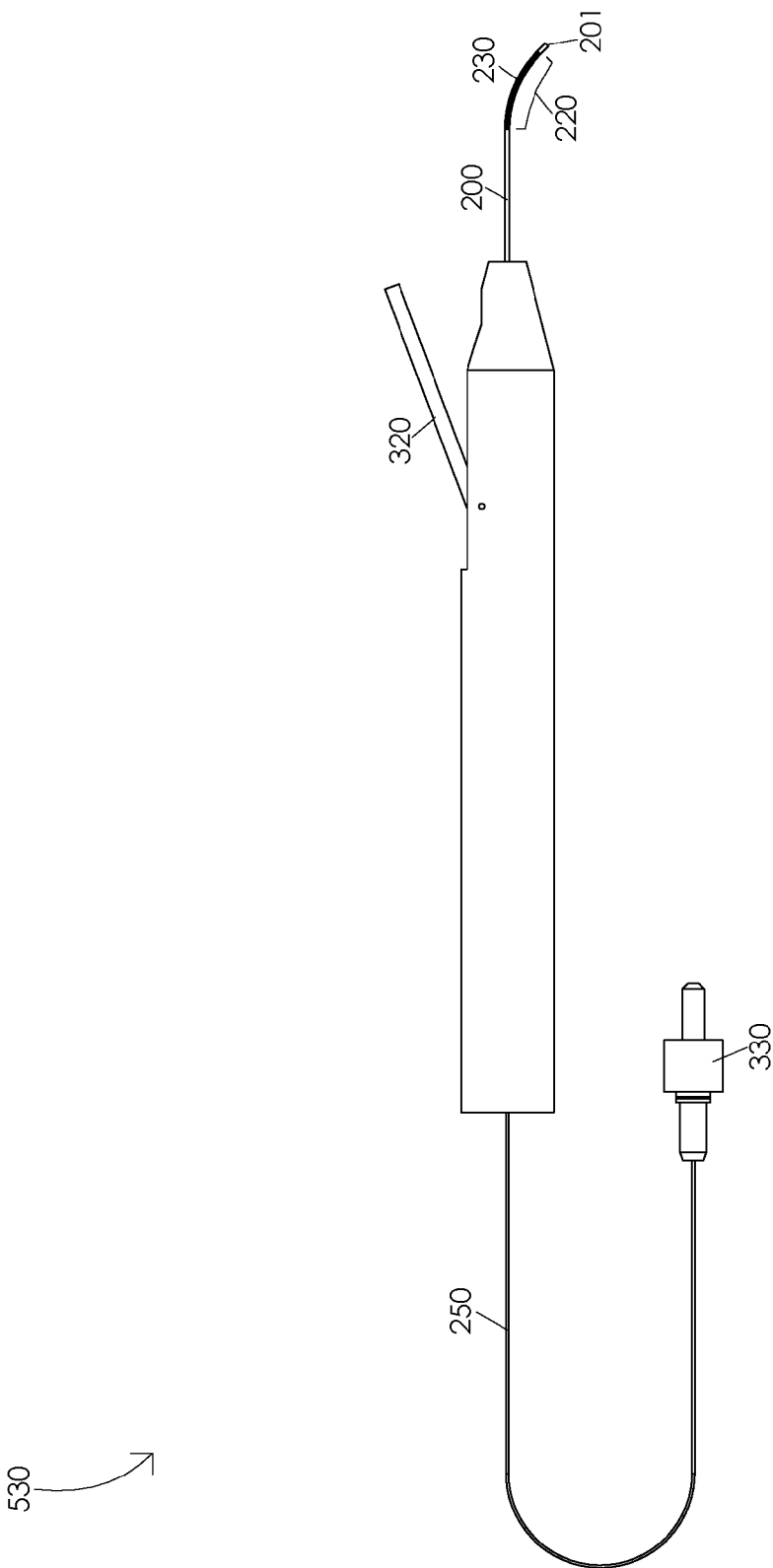


FIG. 5D

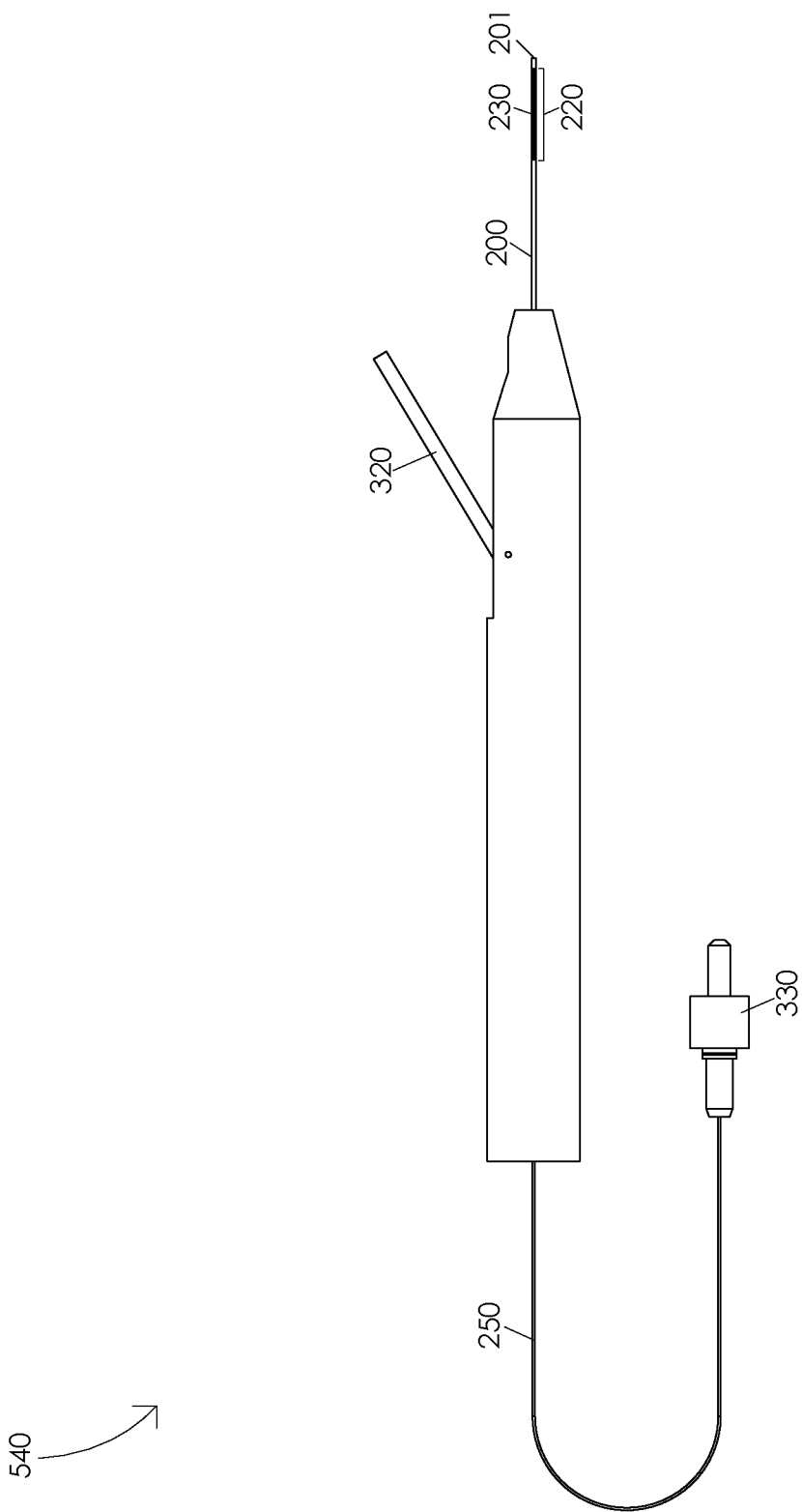


FIG. 5E



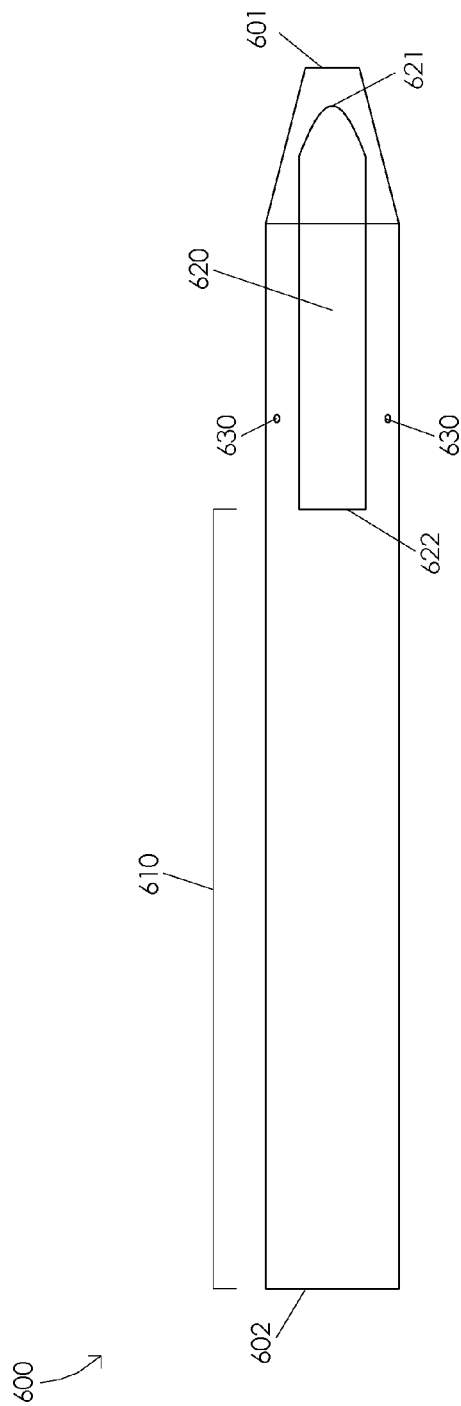


FIG. 6A

600

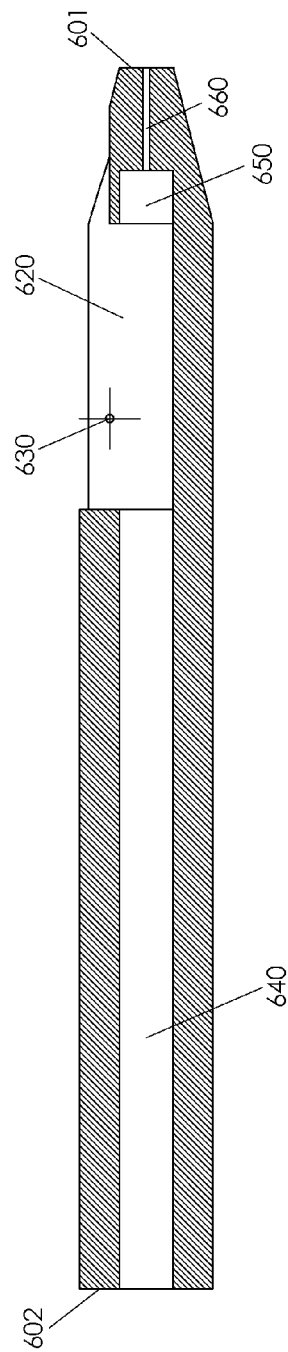
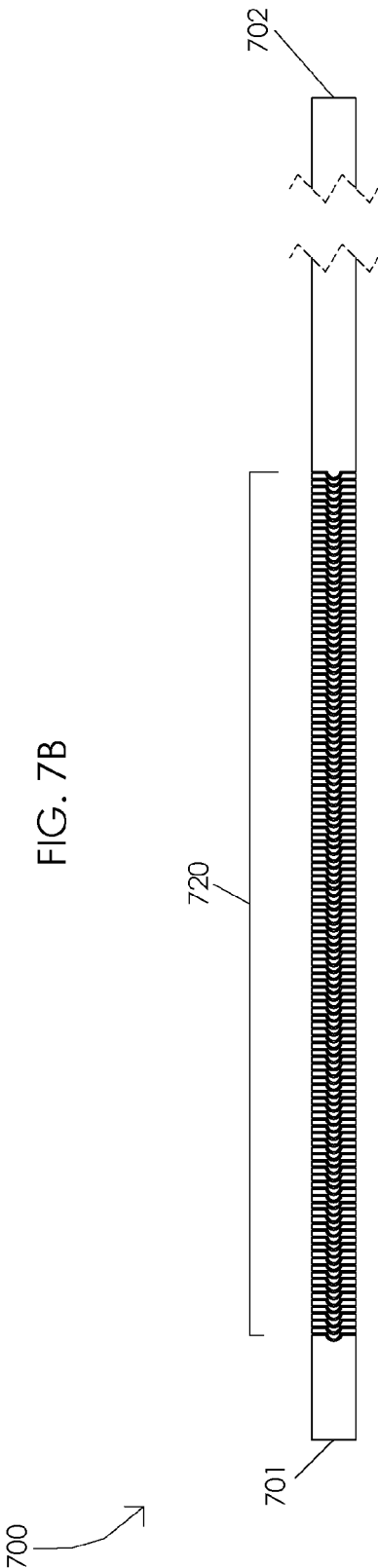
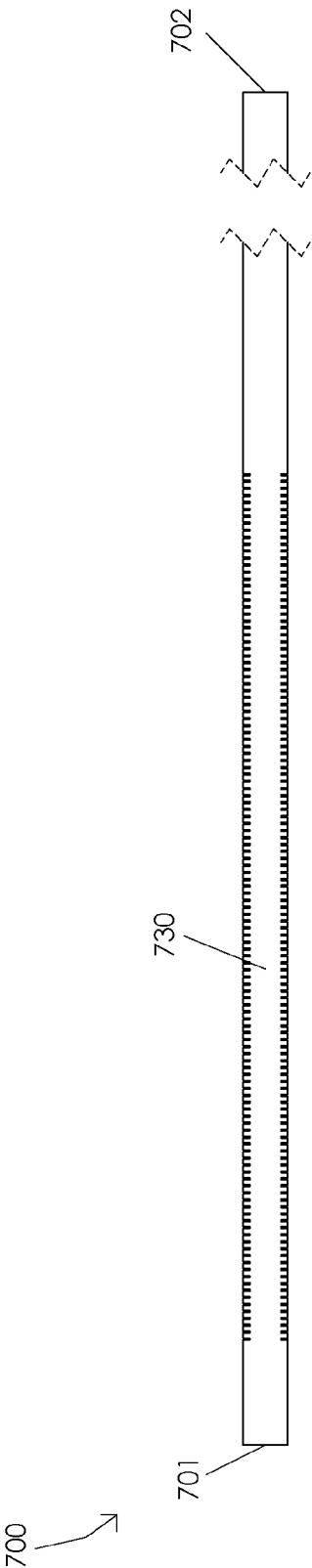
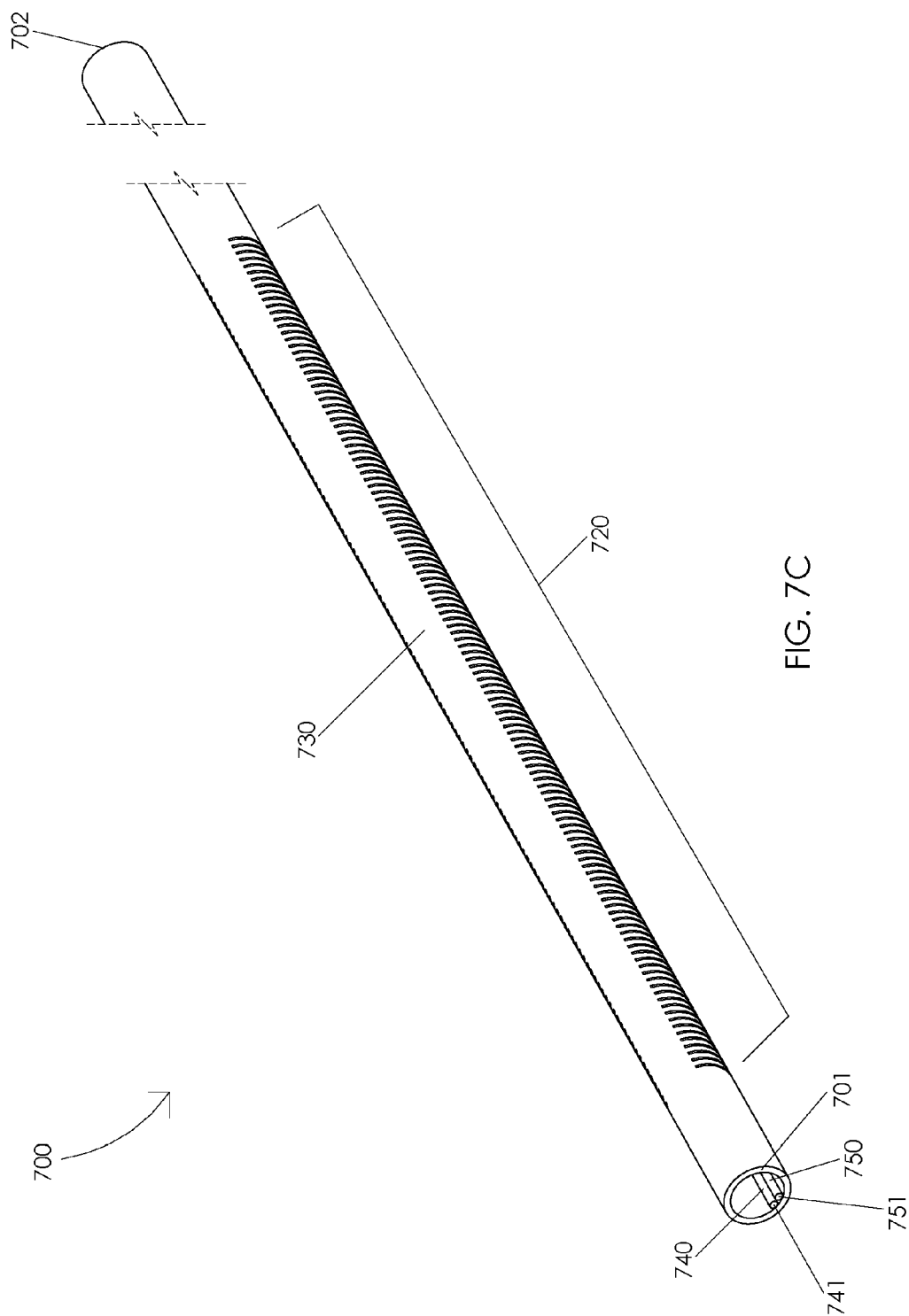


FIG. 6B





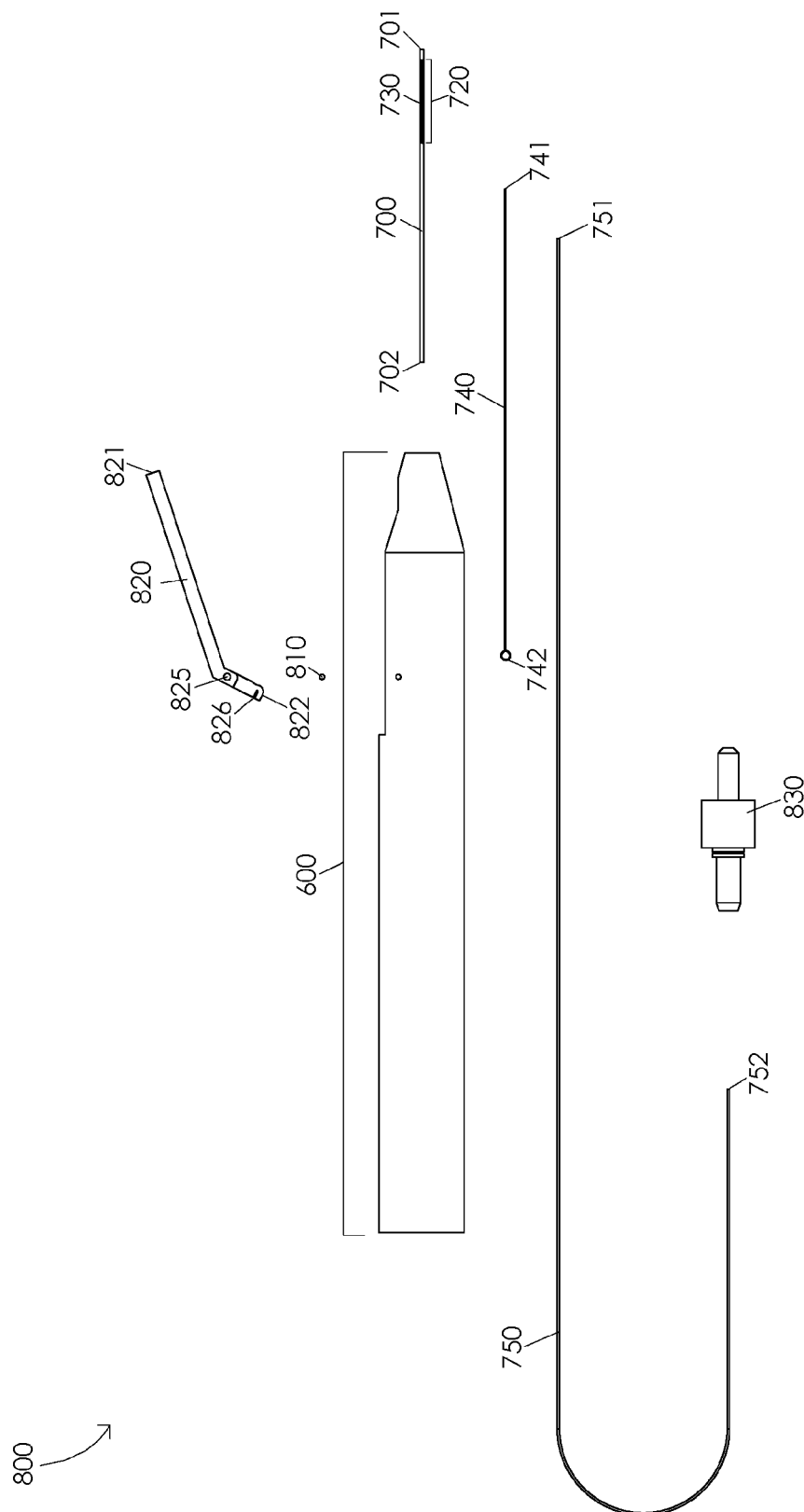


FIG. 8

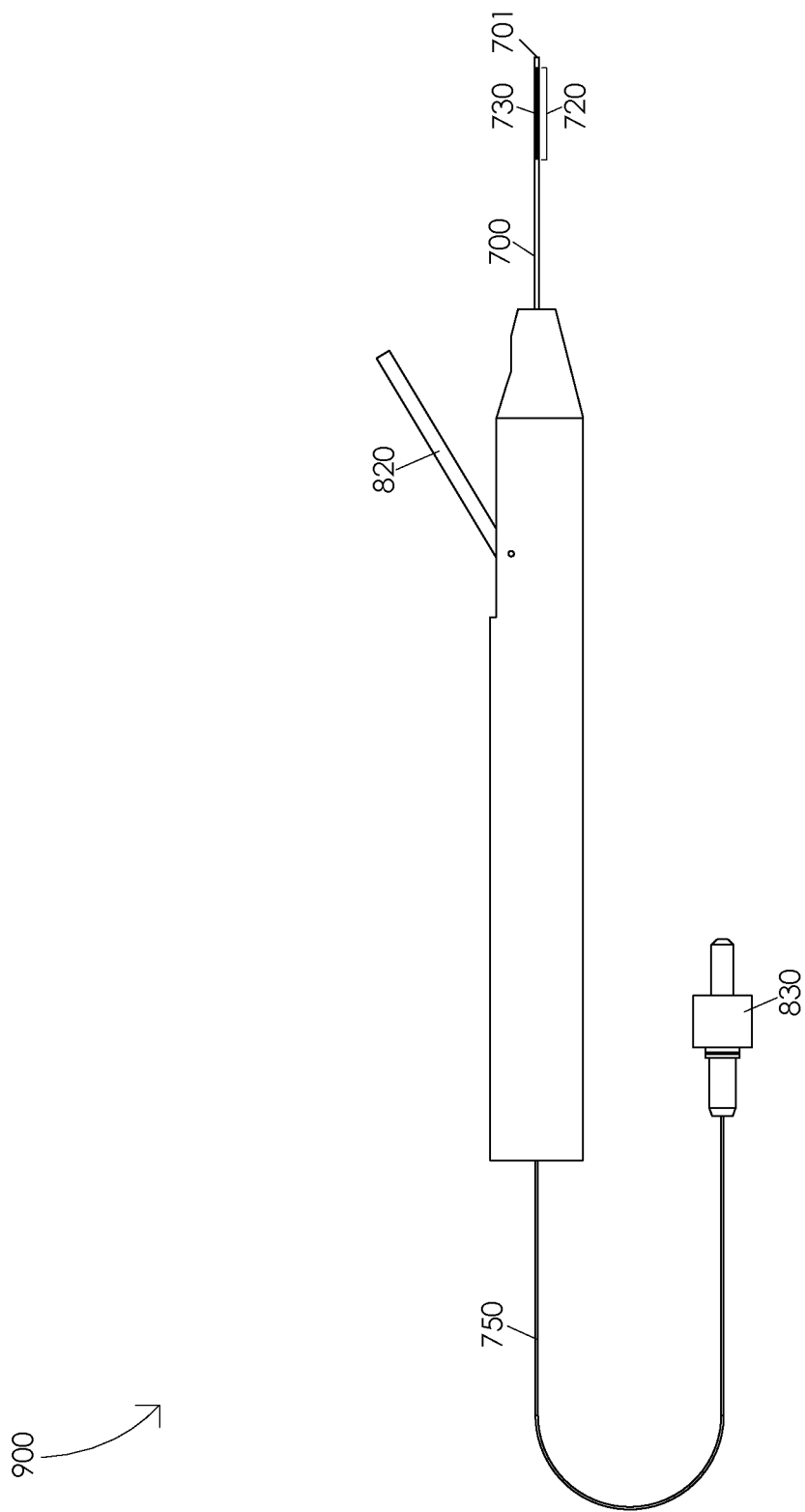


FIG. 9A

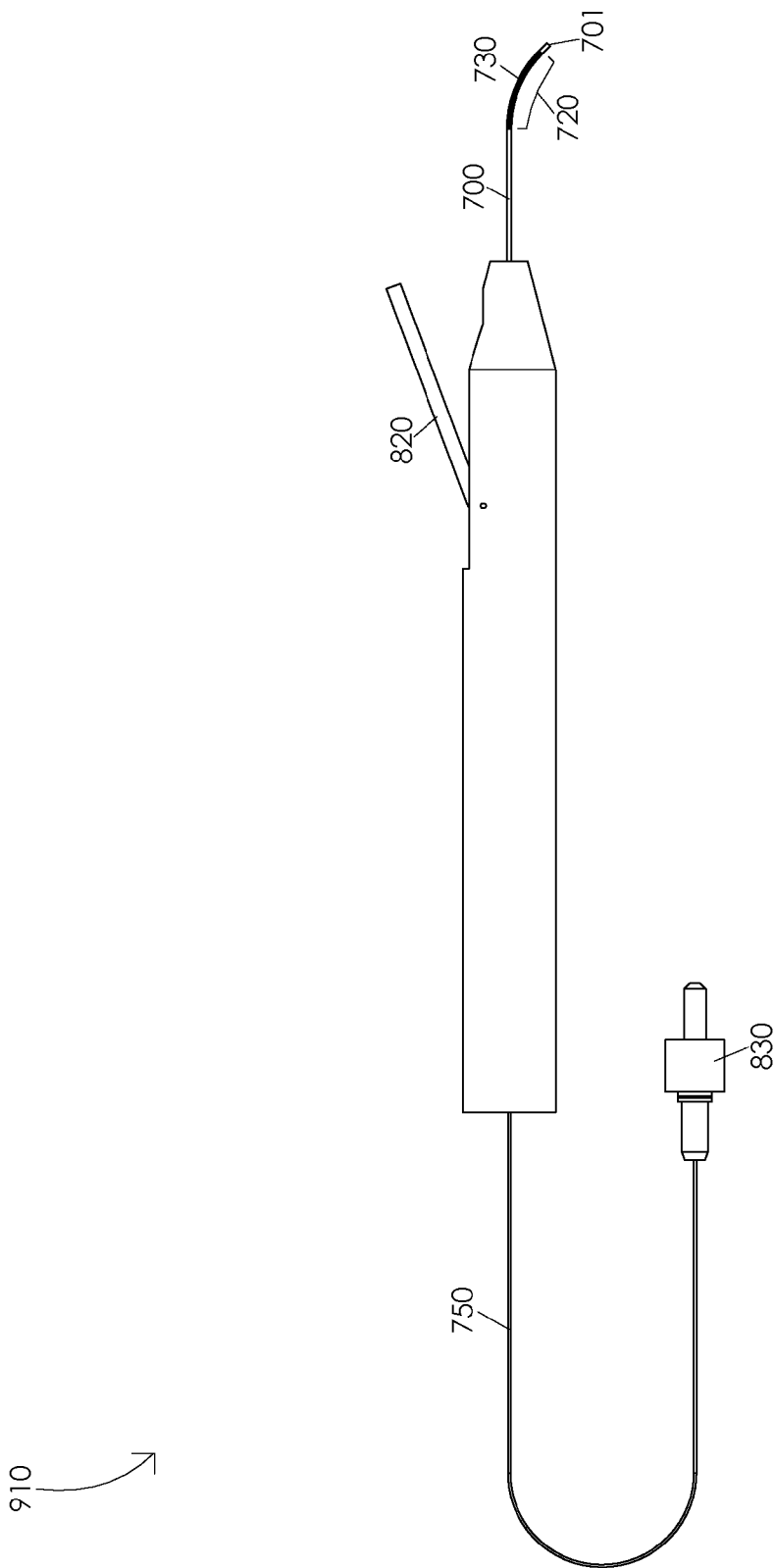


FIG. 9B

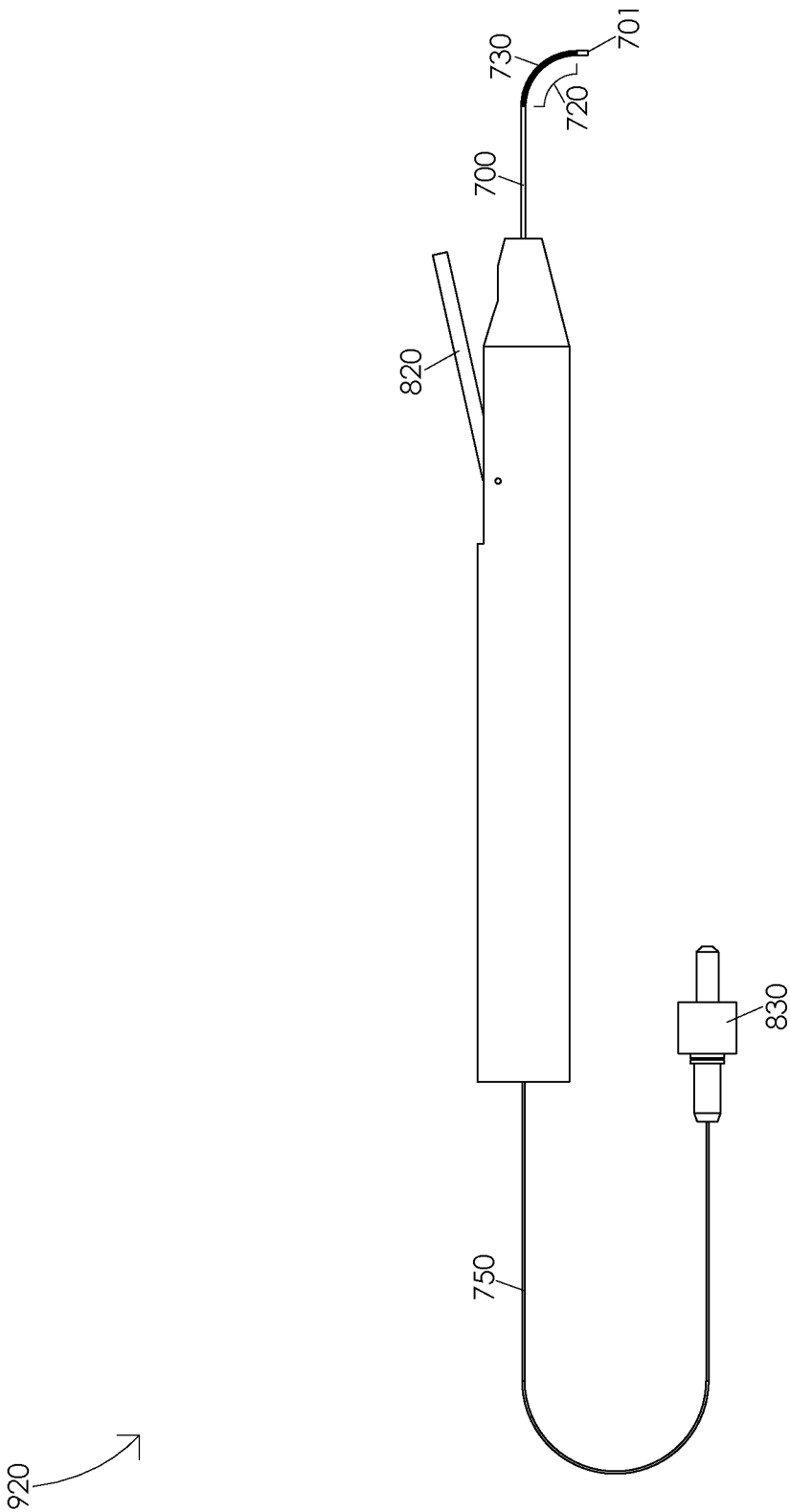


FIG. 9C

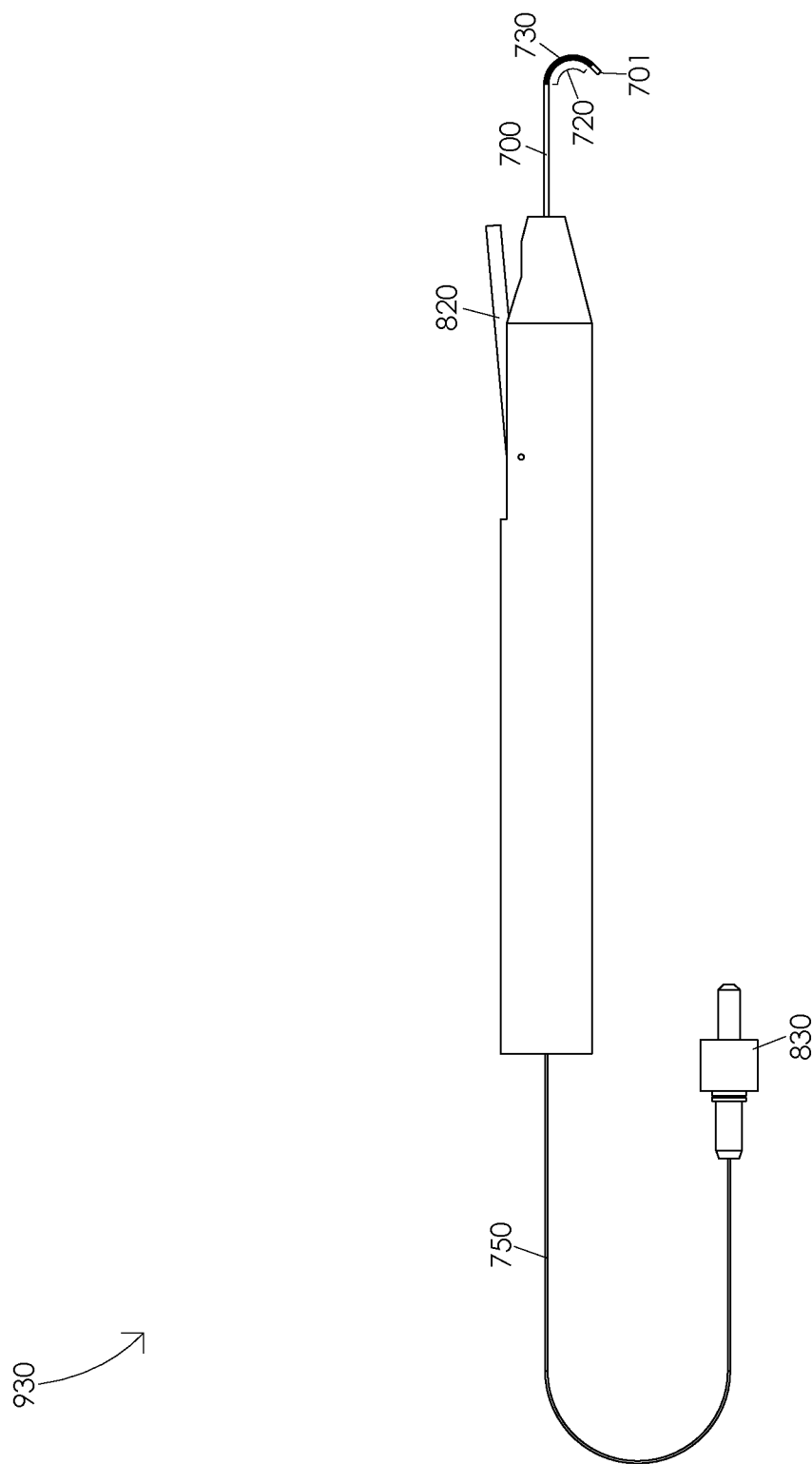


FIG. 9D



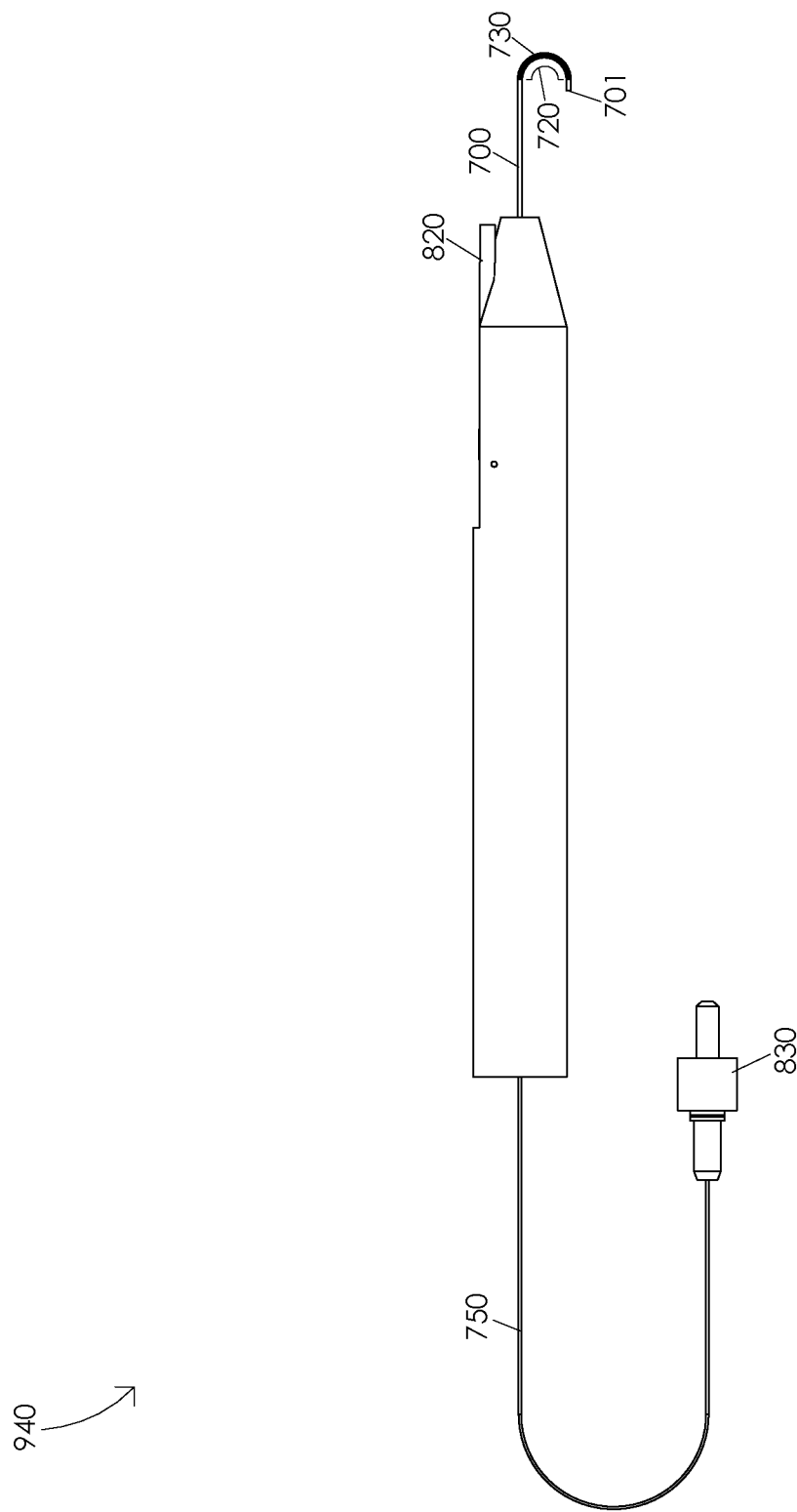


FIG. 9E

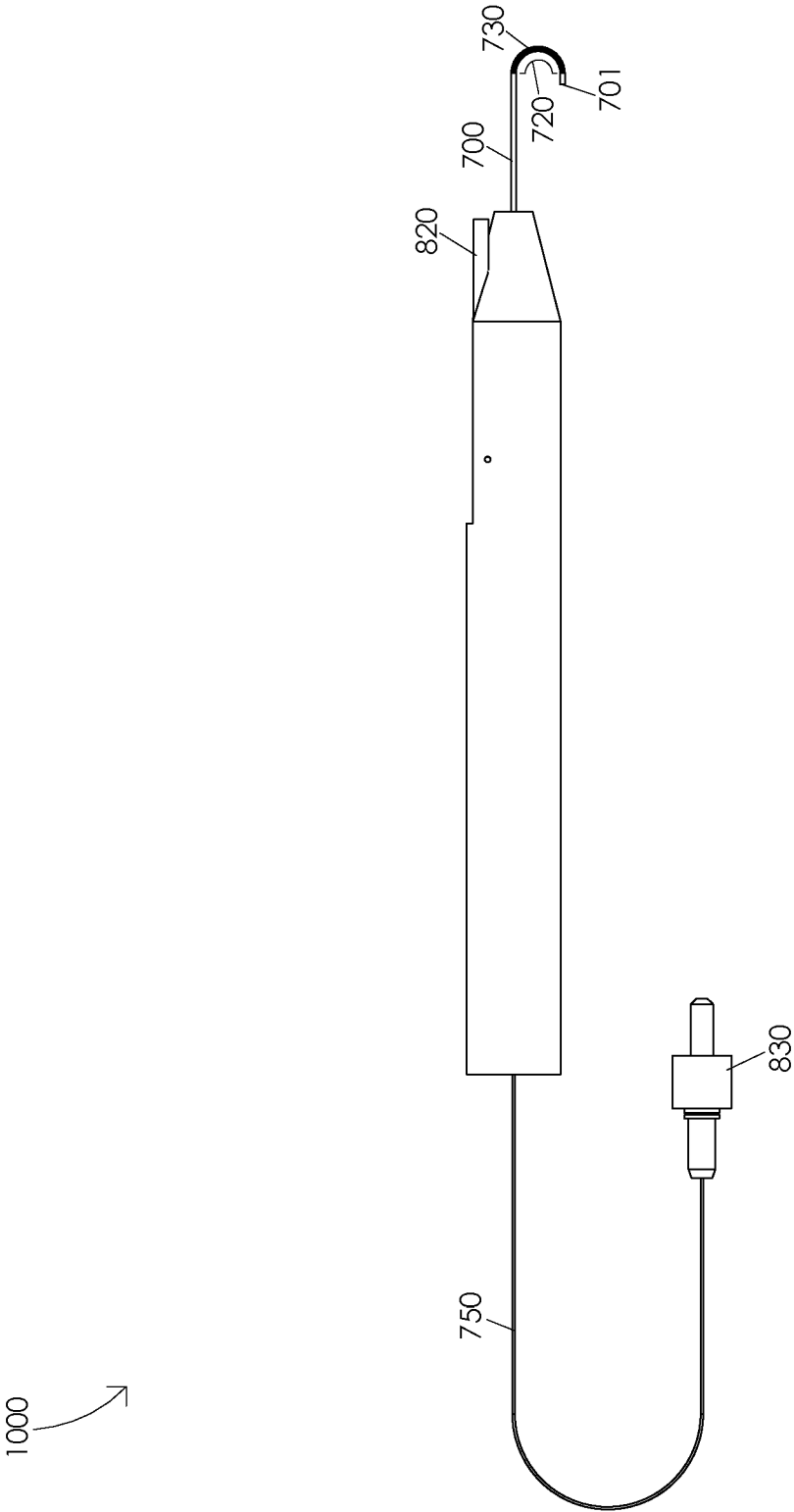


FIG. 10A

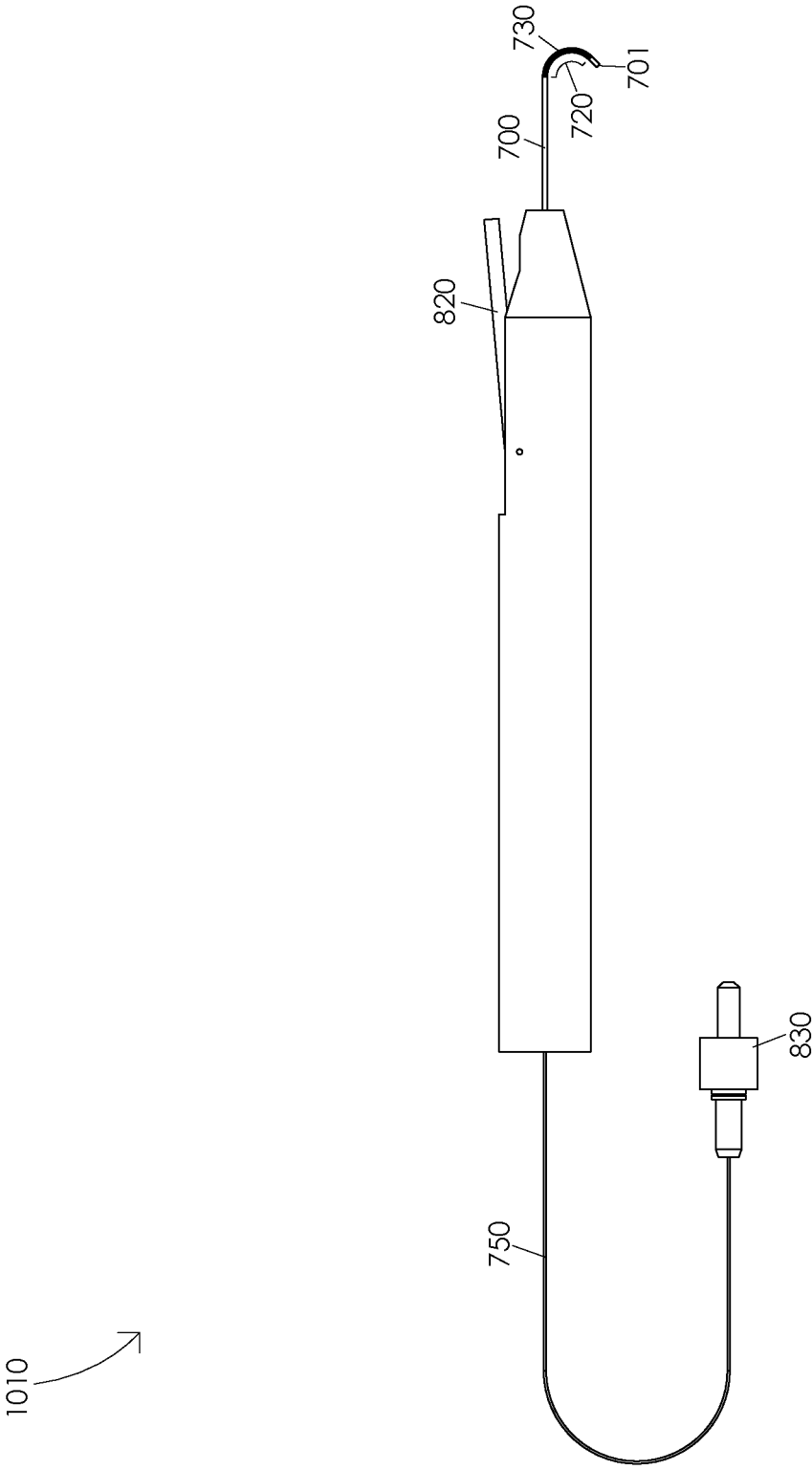


FIG. 10B

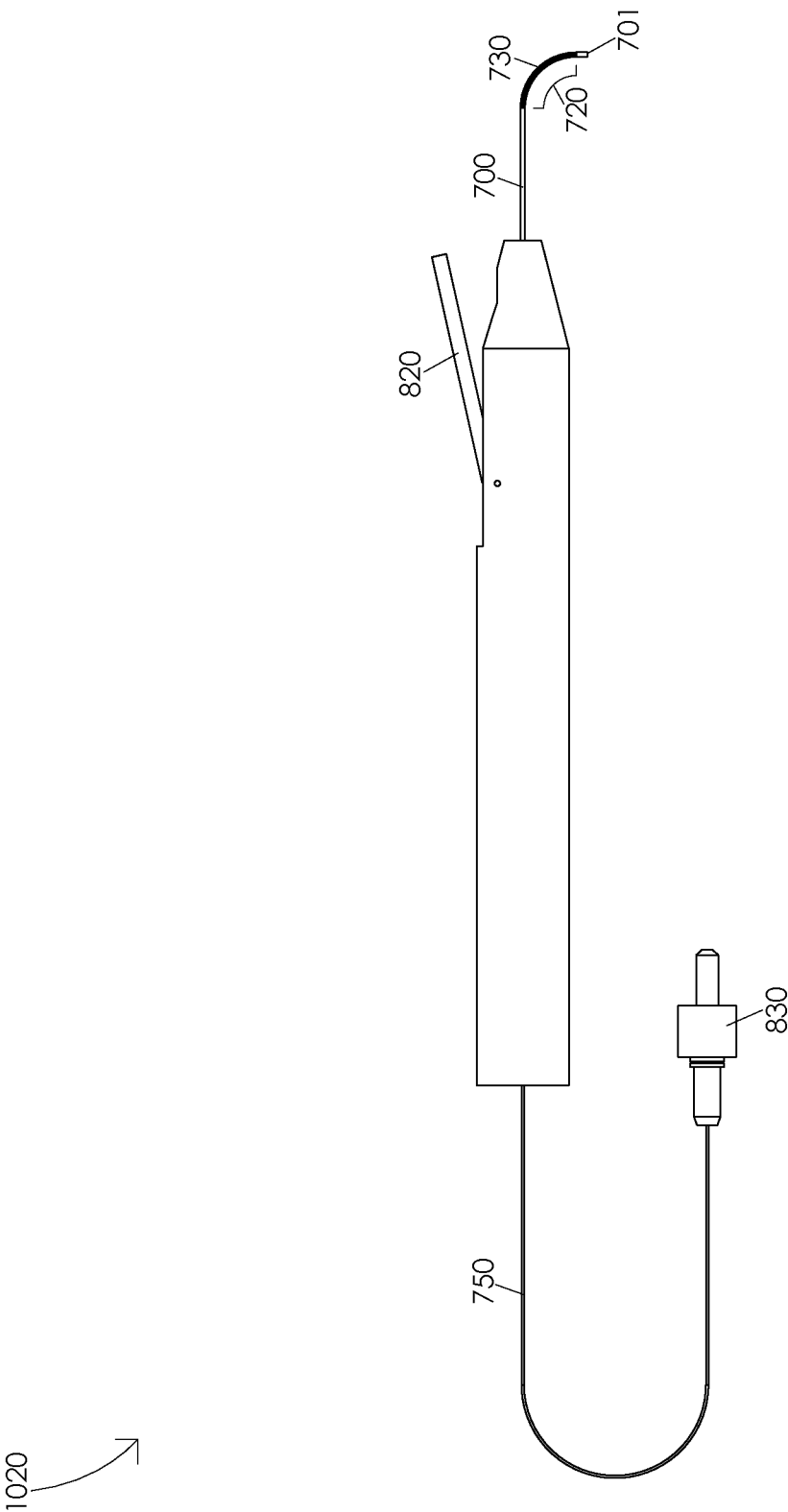


FIG. 10C

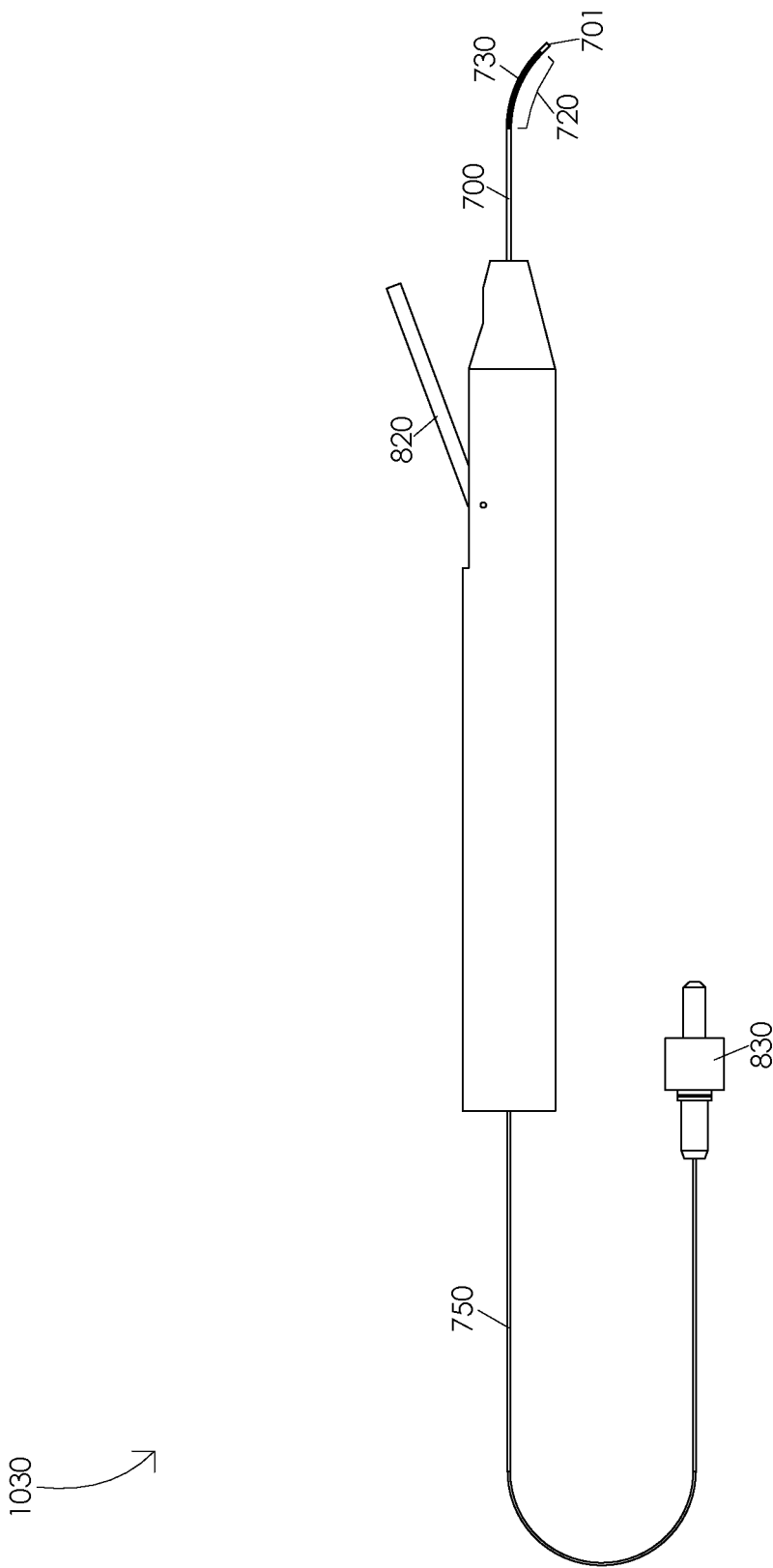


FIG. 10D

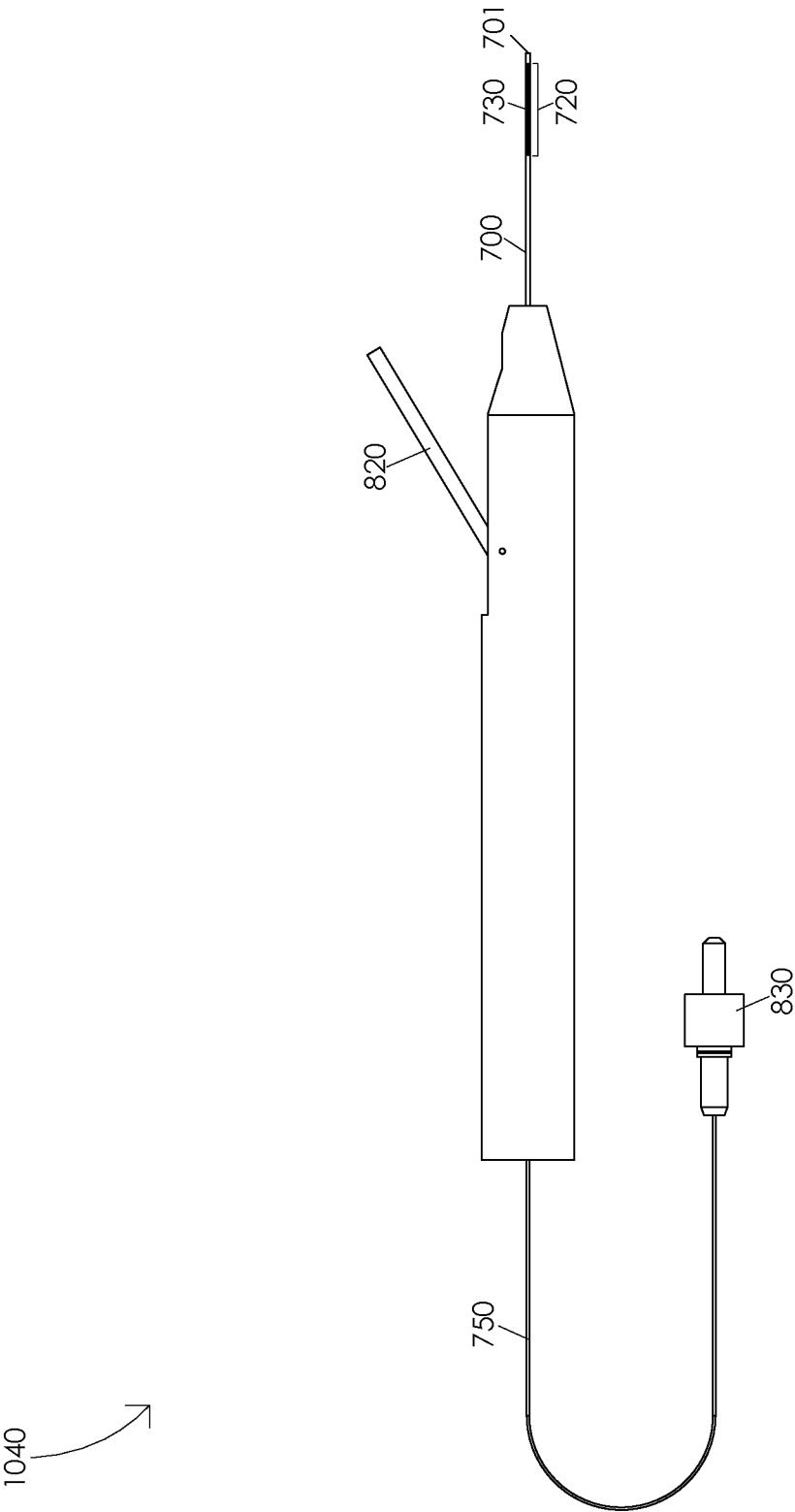


FIG. 10E

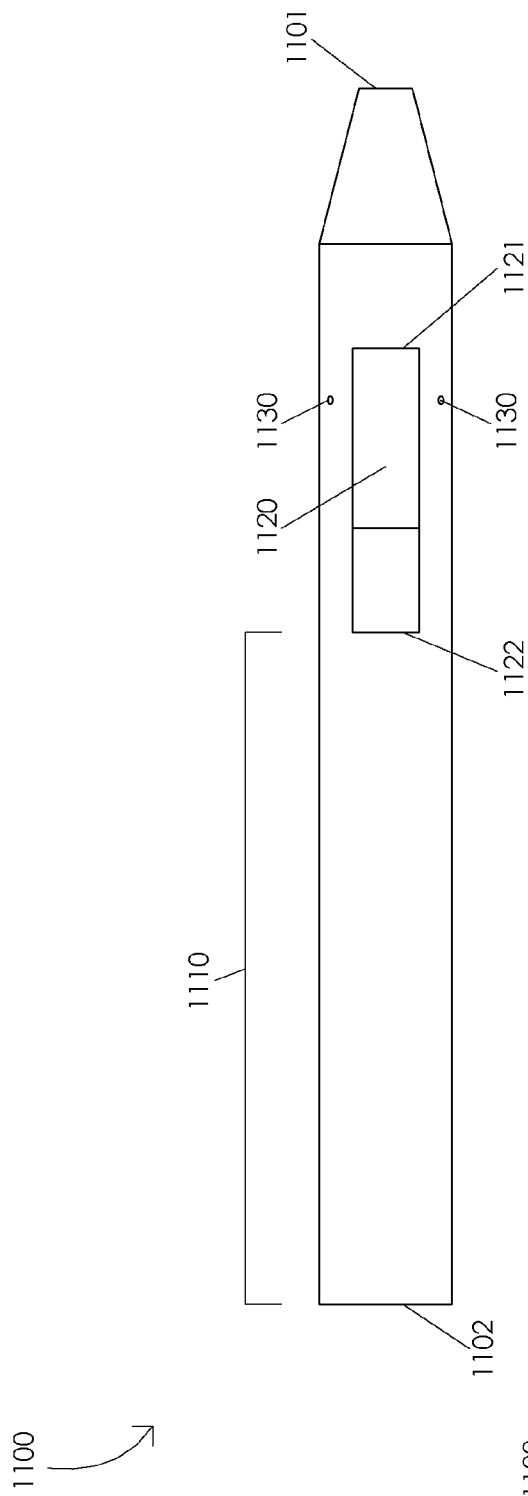


FIG. 11A

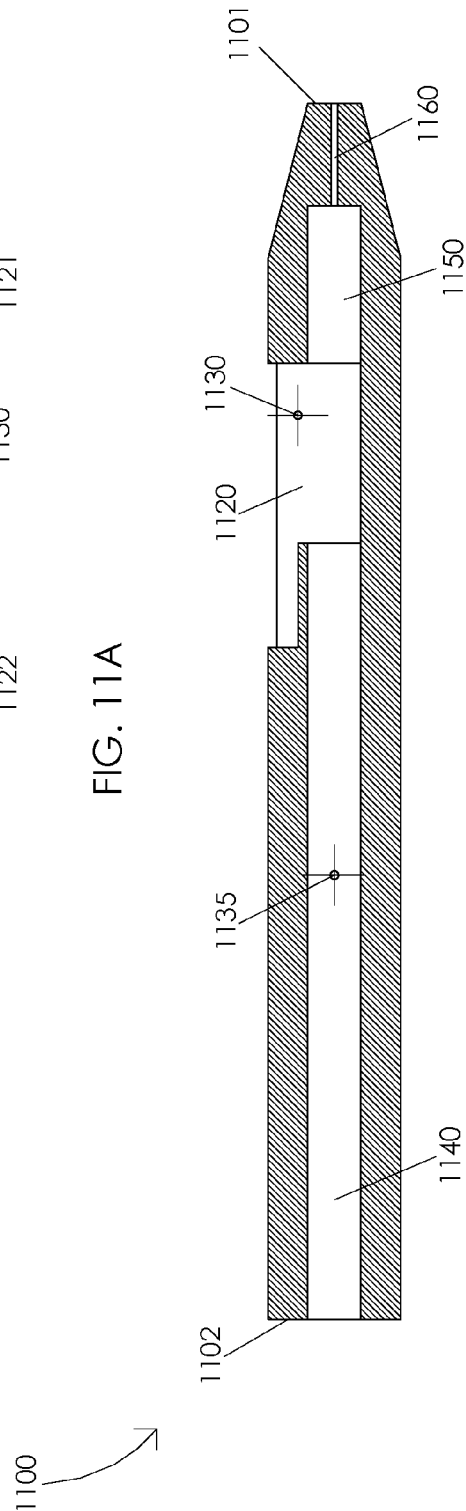


FIG. 11B

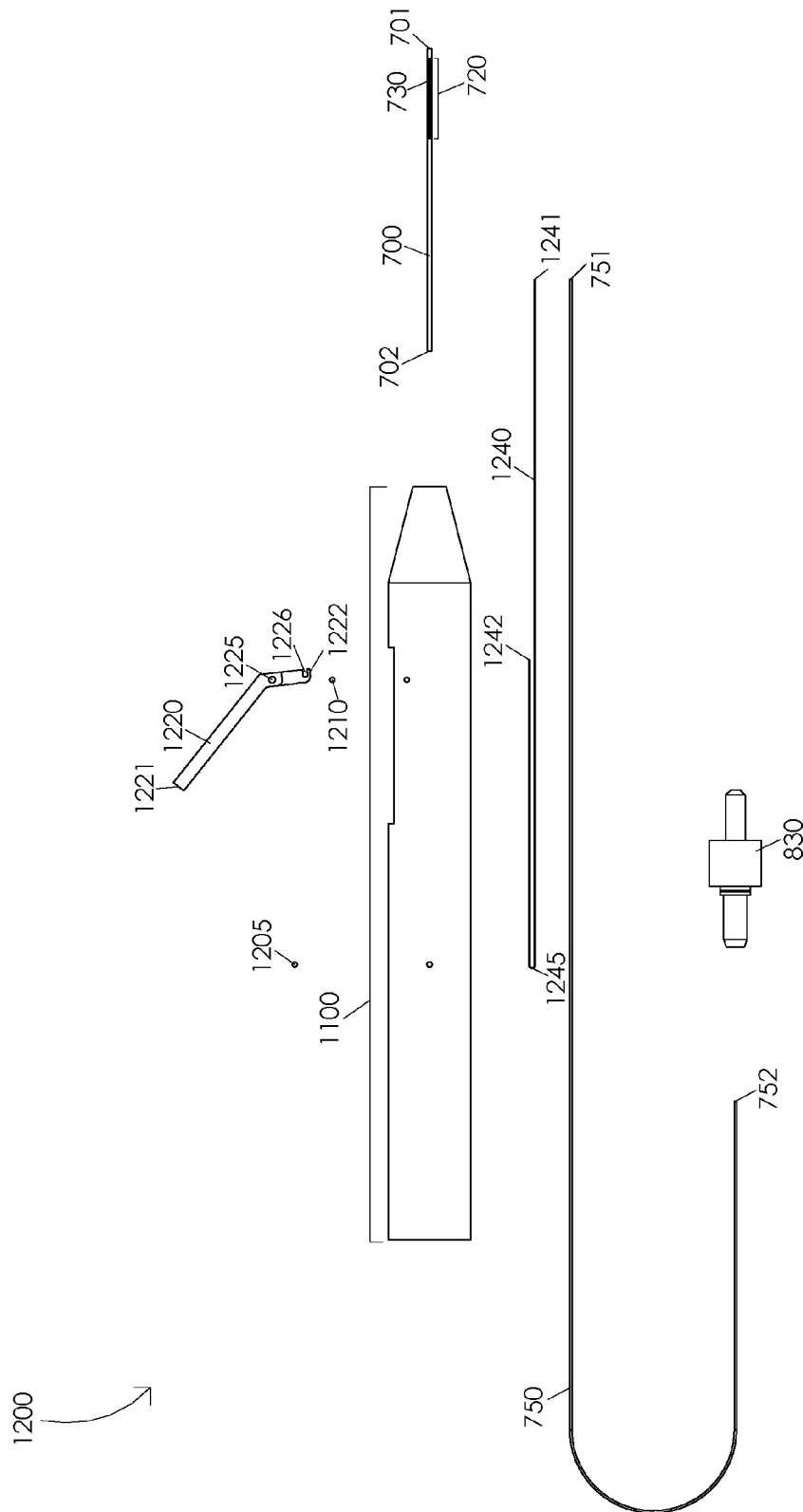


FIG. 12



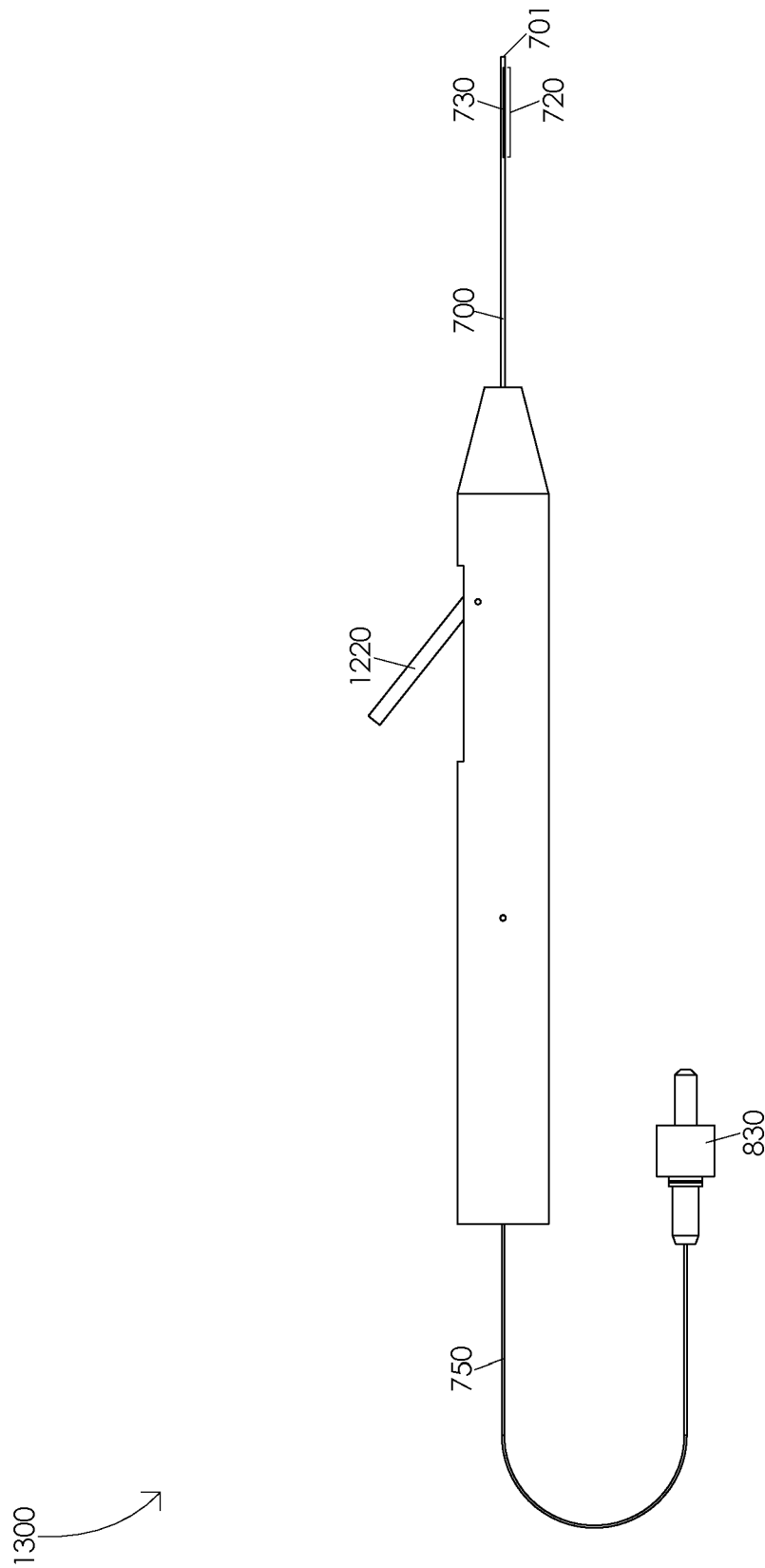


FIG. 13A

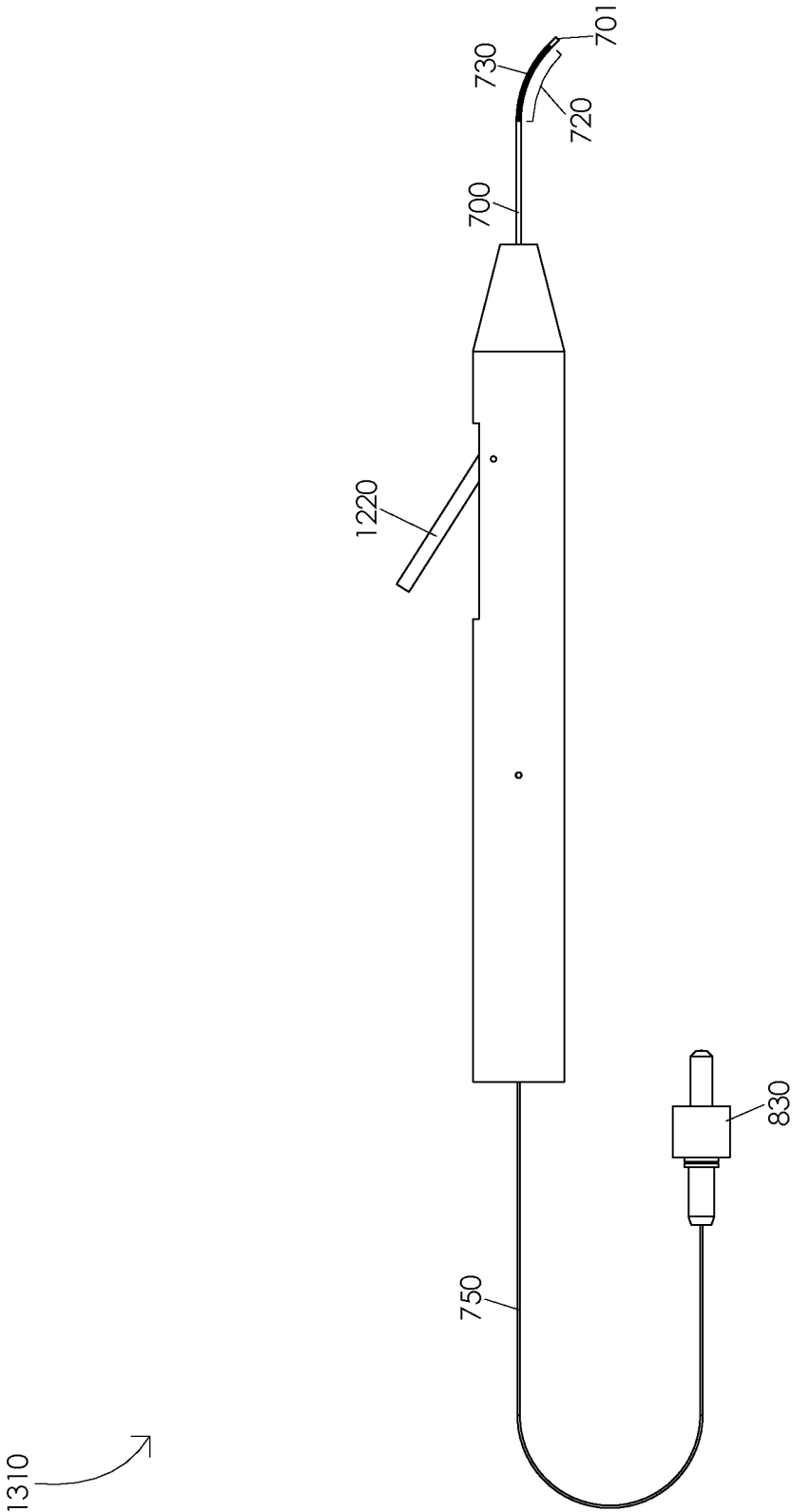


FIG. 13B

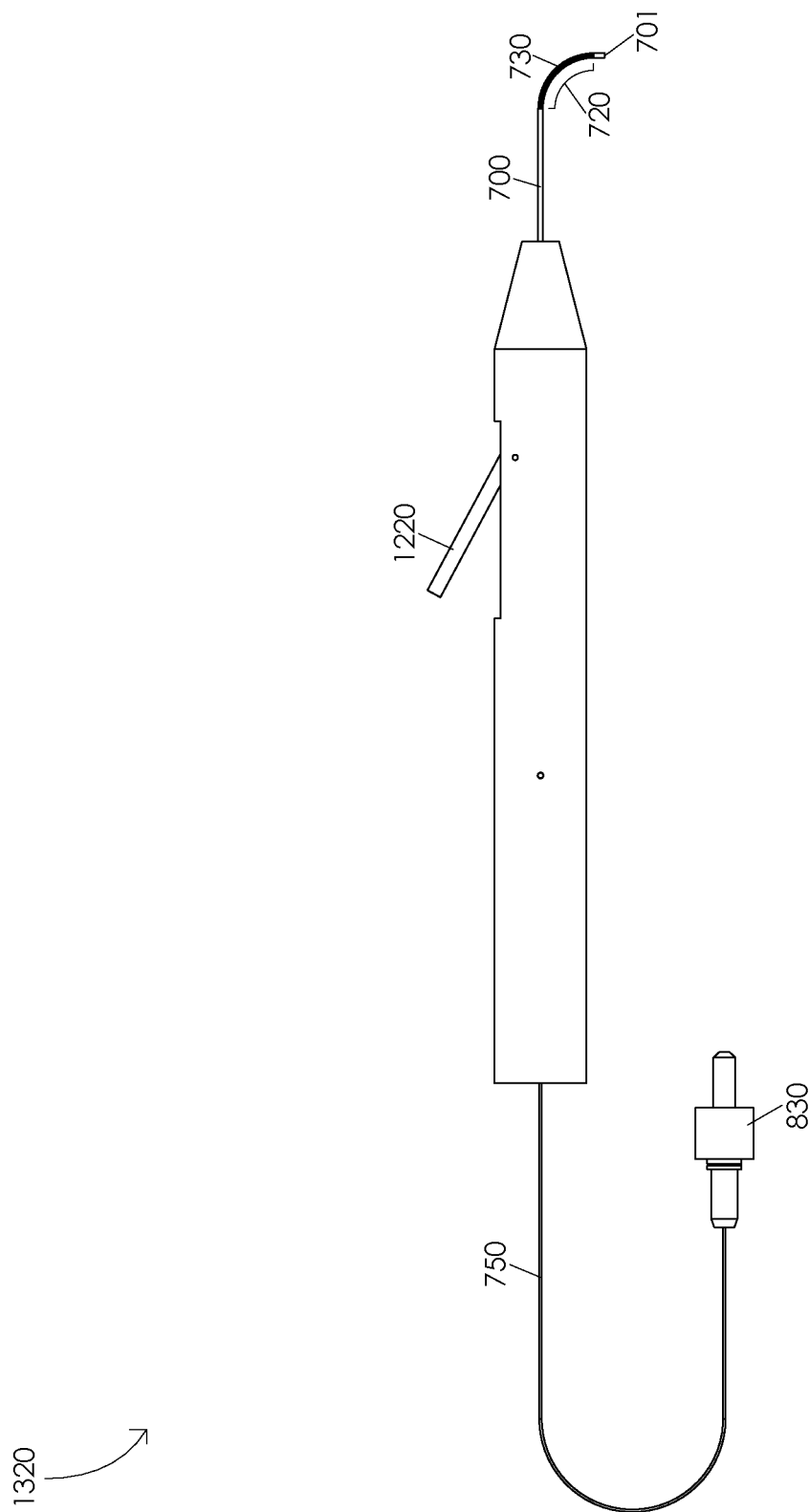


FIG. 13C

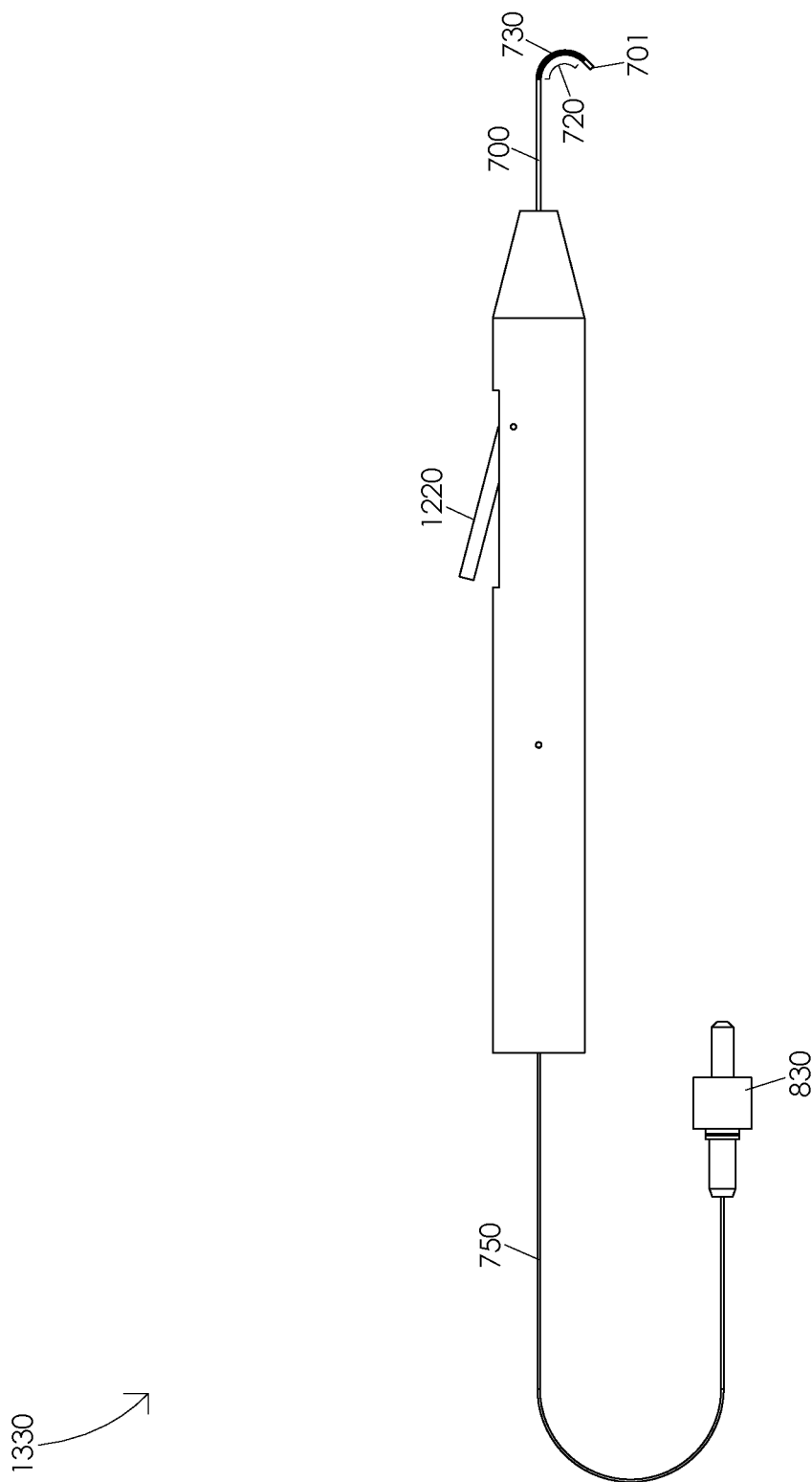


FIG. 13D

1340

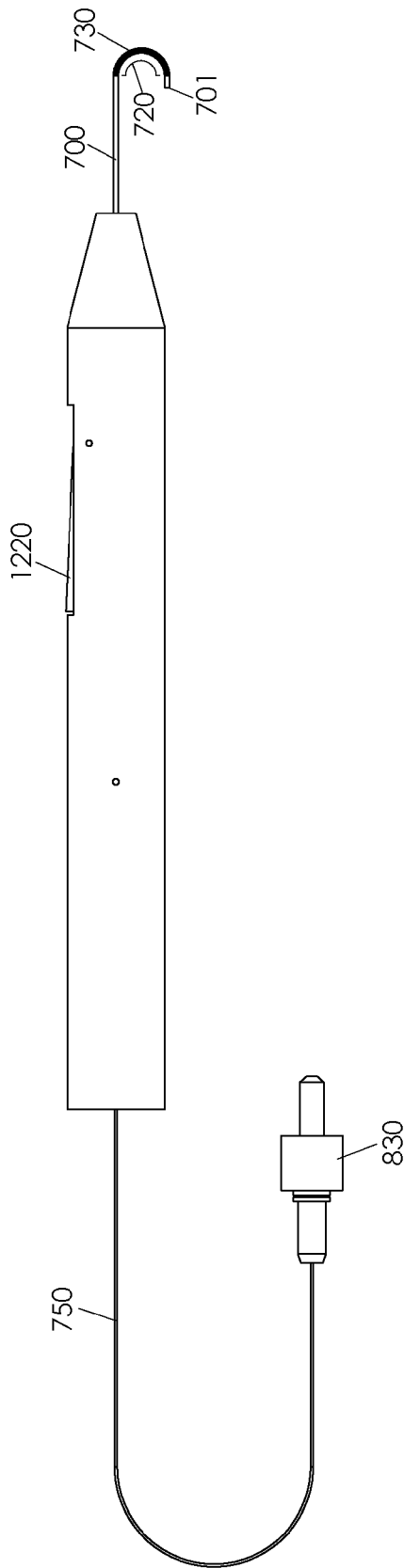


FIG. 13E

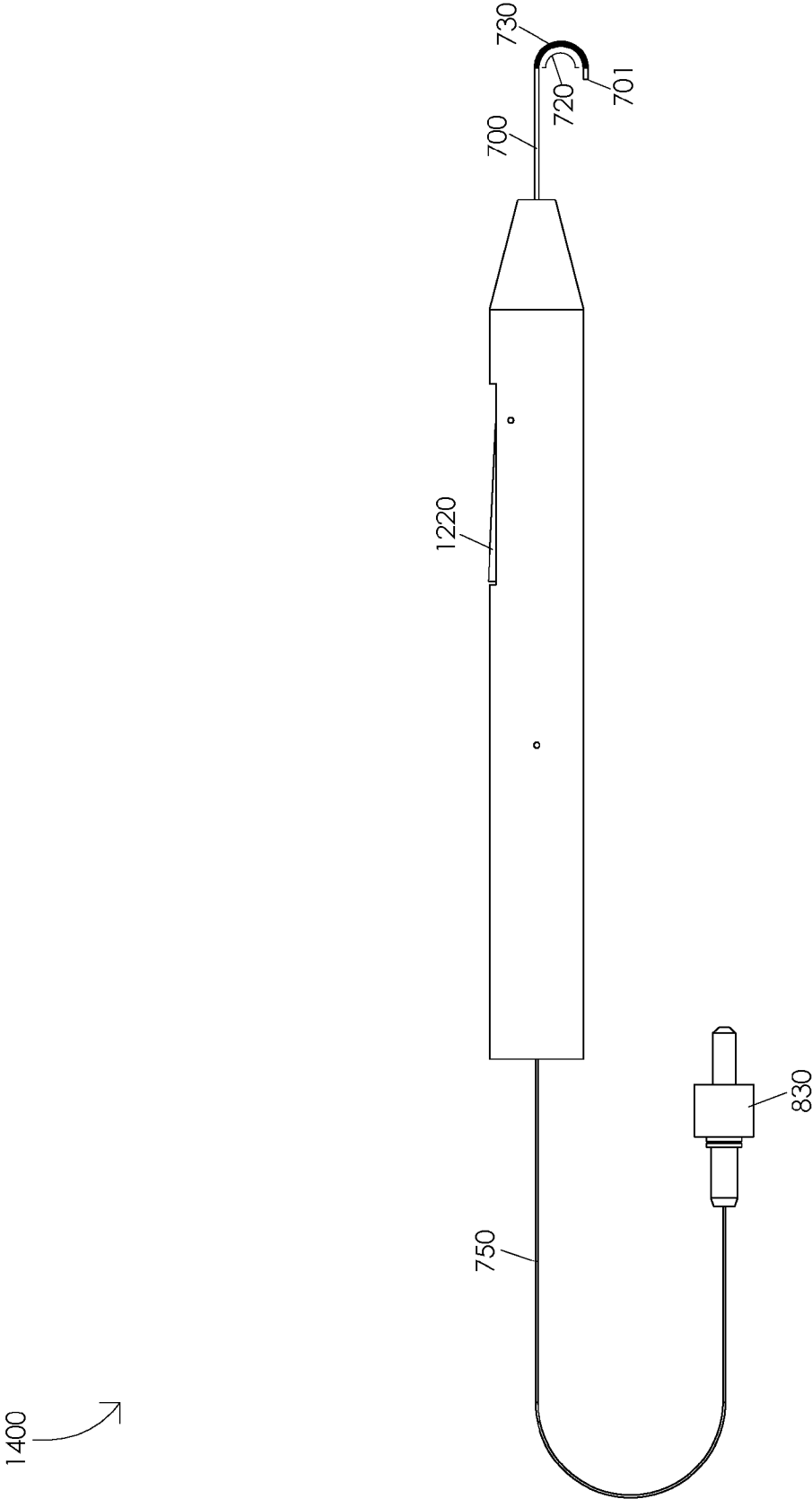


FIG. 14A

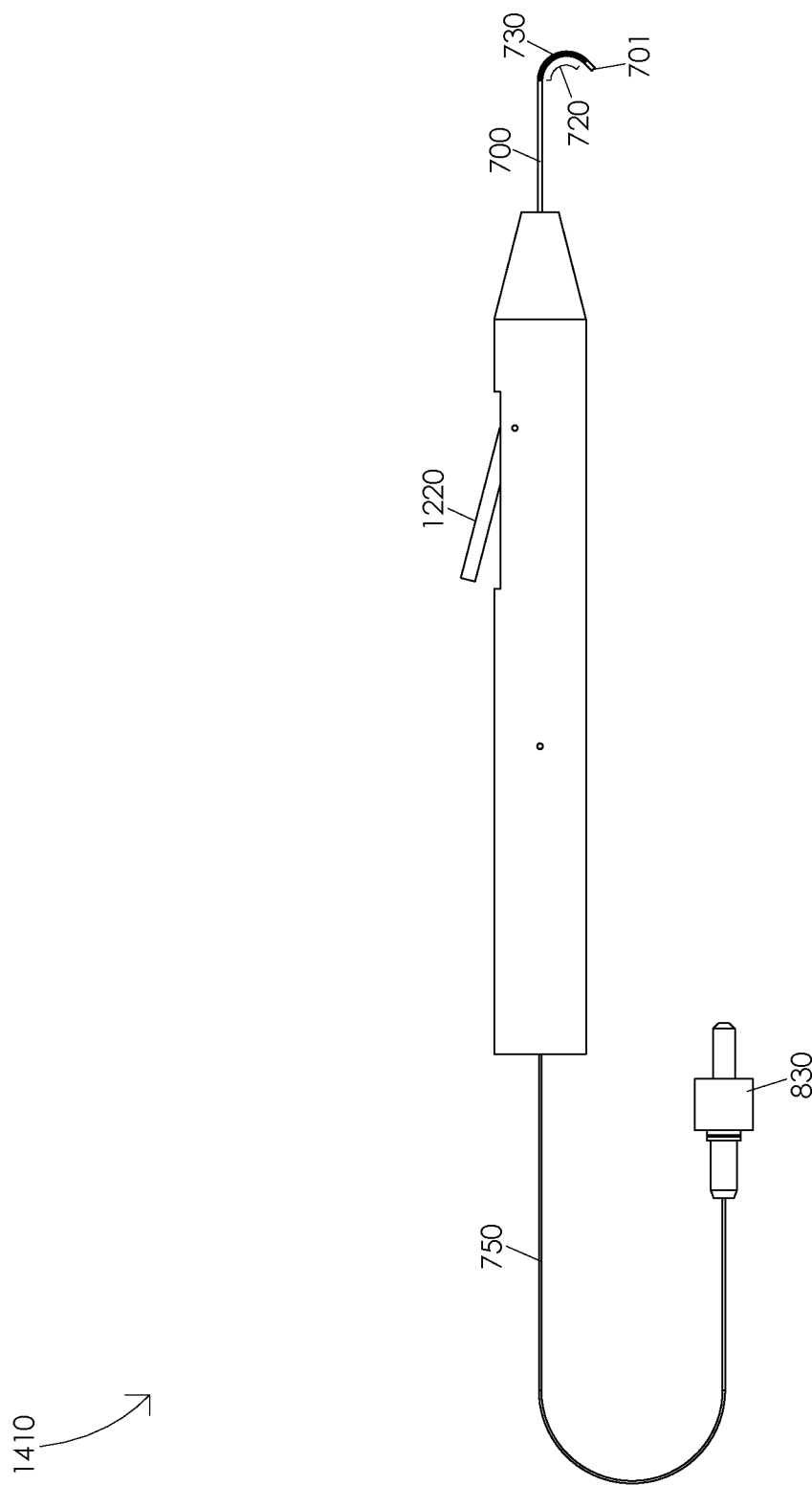


FIG. 14B

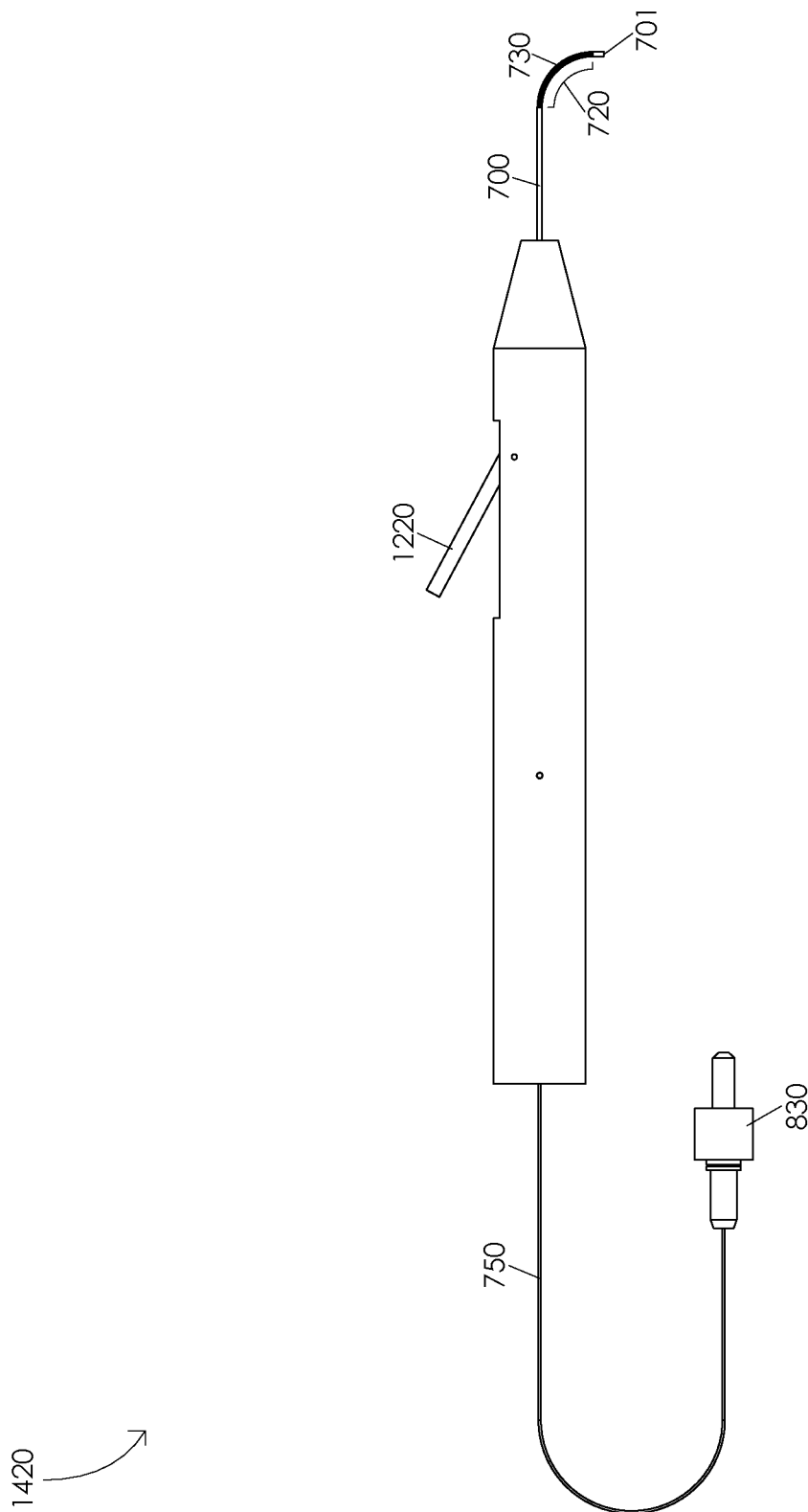


FIG. 14C



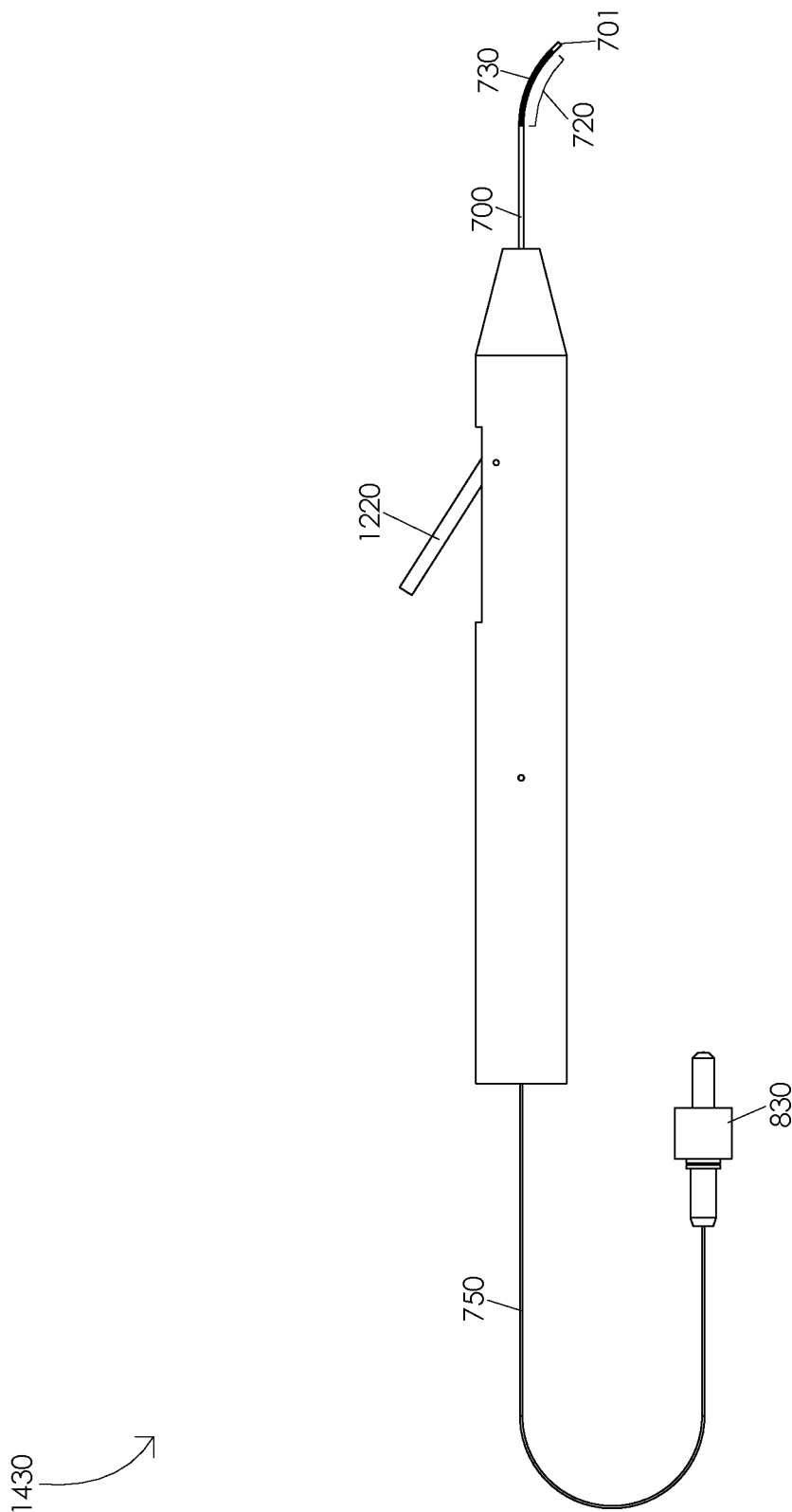


FIG. 14D

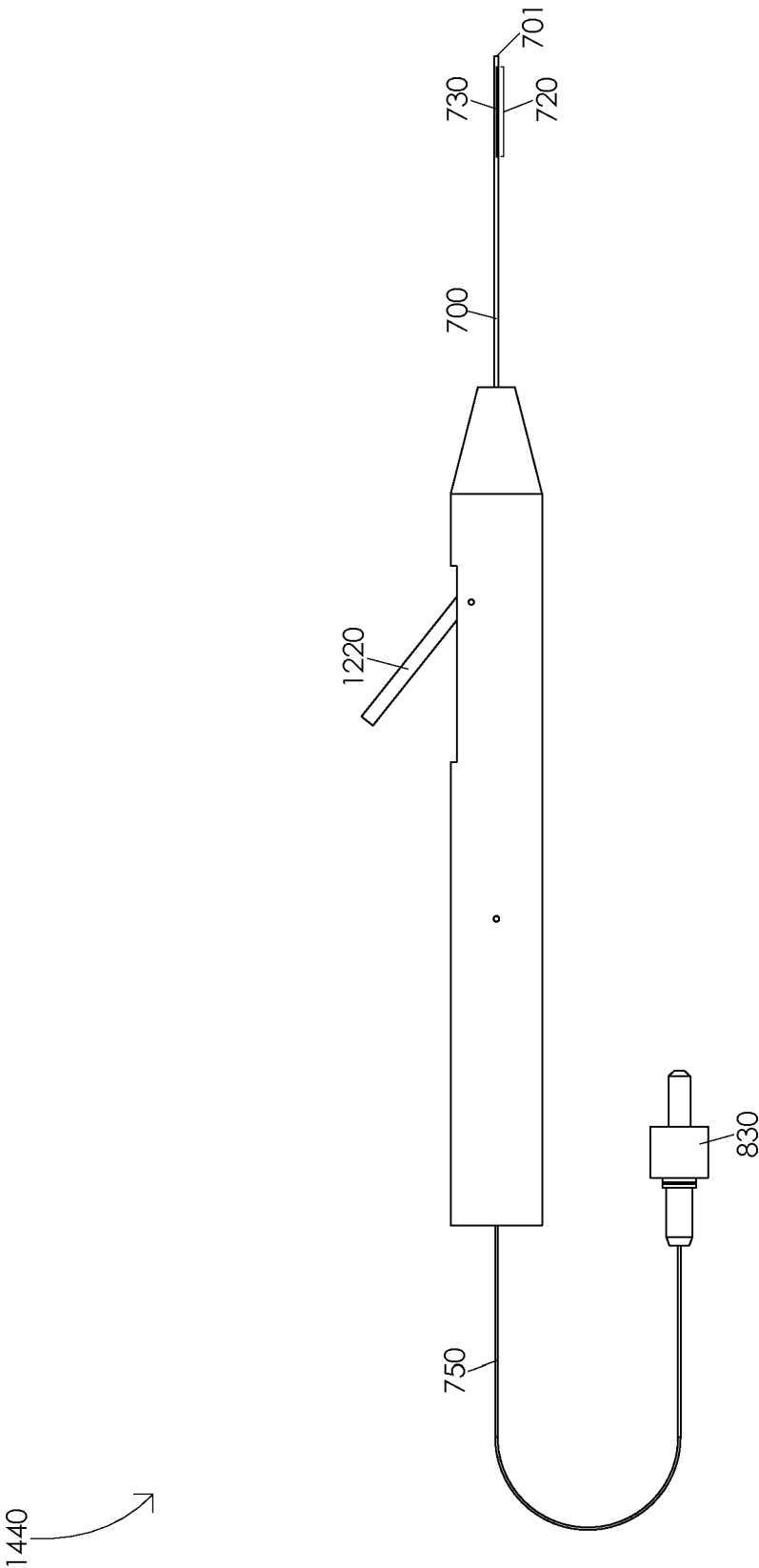


FIG. 14E

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**STEERABLE LASER PROBE****CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/555,268, filed Nov. 3, 2011.

**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

The present disclosure relates to a surgical instrument, and, more particularly, to a steerable laser probe.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

A wide variety of ophthalmic procedures require a laser energy source. For example, ophthalmic surgeons may use laser photocoagulation to treat proliferative retinopathy. Proliferative retinopathy is a condition characterized by the development of abnormal blood vessels in the retina that grow into the vitreous humor. Ophthalmic surgeons may treat this condition by energizing a laser to cauterize portions of the retina to prevent the abnormal blood vessels from growing and hemorrhaging.

In order to increase the chances of a successful laser photocoagulation procedure, it is important that a surgeon is able aim the laser at a plurality of targets within the eye, e.g., by guiding or moving the laser from a first target to a second target within the eye. It is also important that the surgeon is able to easily control a movement of the laser. For example, the surgeon must be able to easily direct a laser beam by steering the beam to a first position aimed at a first target, guide the laser beam from the first position to a second position aimed at a second target, and hold the laser beam in the second position. Accordingly, there is a need for a surgical laser probe that can be easily guided to a plurality of targets within the eye.

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The present disclosure provides a steerable laser probe. In one or more embodiments, a steerable laser probe may comprise a handle, an actuation lever, an optic fiber, and a housing tube. Illustratively, the housing tube may comprise a first housing tube portion having a first stiffness and a second housing tube portion having a second stiffness. In one or more embodiments, the second stiffness may be greater than the first stiffness. Illustratively, the optic fiber may be disposed within the housing tube and within an inner bore of the handle. In one or more embodiments, a portion of the optic fiber may be fixed to an inner portion of the housing tube, e.g., by a biocompatible adhesive or any other suitable means.

Illustratively, an actuation of the actuation lever, e.g., as a result of an application of a force to the actuation lever, may be configured to gradually compress a first housing tube portion of the housing tube. In one or more embodiments, a compression of the first housing tube portion may be configured to gradually curve the housing tube. Illustratively, a gradual curving of the housing tube may be configured to gradually curve the optic fiber.

In one or more embodiments, an actuation of the actuation lever, e.g., as a result of a reduction of a force applied to the actuation lever, may be configured to gradually decompress a first housing tube portion of the housing tube. Illustratively, a decompression of the first housing tube portion may be configured to gradually straighten the housing tube. In one or

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more embodiments, a gradual straightening of the housing tube may be configured to gradually straighten the optic fiber.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

The above and further advantages of the present invention may be better understood by referring to the following description in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which like reference numerals indicate identical or functionally similar elements:

FIGS. 1A and 1B are schematic diagrams illustrating a handle;

FIGS. 2A, 2B, and 2C are schematic diagrams illustrating a housing tube;

FIG. 3 is a schematic diagram illustrating an exploded view of a steerable laser probe assembly;

FIGS. 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, and 4E illustrate a gradual curving of an optic fiber;

FIGS. 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, and 5E illustrate a gradual straightening of an optic fiber;

FIGS. 6A and 6B are schematic diagrams illustrating a handle;

FIGS. 7A, 7B, and 7C are schematic diagrams illustrating a housing tube;

FIG. 8 is a schematic diagram illustrating an exploded view of a steerable laser probe assembly;

FIGS. 9A, 9B, 9C, 9D, and 9E illustrate a gradual curving of an optic fiber;

FIGS. 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D, and 10E illustrate a gradual straightening of an optic fiber;

FIGS. 11A and 11B are schematic diagrams illustrating a handle;

FIG. 12 is a schematic diagram illustrating an exploded view of a steerable laser probe assembly;

FIGS. 13A, 13B, 13C, 13D, and 13E illustrate a gradual curving of an optic fiber;

FIGS. 14A, 14B, 14C, 14D, and 14E illustrate a gradual straightening of an optic fiber.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF AN ILLUSTRATIVE EMBODIMENT**

FIGS. 1A and 1B are schematic diagrams illustrating a handle **100**. FIG. 1A illustrates a top view of handle **100**. Illustratively, handle **100** may comprise a handle distal end **101** and a handle proximal end **102**. In one or more embodiments, handle **100** may comprise a handle base **110**, an actuation channel **120** having an actuation channel distal end **121** and an actuation channel proximal end **122**, and a pivot pin housing **130**. FIG. 1B illustrates a cross-sectional view of handle **100**. Illustratively, handle **100** may comprise an inner bore **140**, an inner bore distal chamber **150**, and an optic fiber guide **160**. Handle **100** may be manufactured from any suitable material, e.g., polymers, metals, metal alloys, etc., or from any combination of suitable materials.

FIGS. 2A, 2B, and 2C are schematic diagrams illustrating a housing tube **200**. In one or more embodiments, housing tube **200** may comprise a housing tube distal end **201** and a housing tube proximal end **202**. Housing tube **200** may be manufactured from any suitable material, e.g., polymers, metals, metal alloys, etc., or from any combination of suitable materials. FIG. 2A illustrates a housing tube **200** oriented to illustrate a first housing tube portion **220**. Illustratively, first housing tube portion **220** may have a first stiffness. FIG. 2B illustrates a housing tube **200** oriented to illustrate a second housing tube portion **230**. Illustratively, second housing tube portion **230** may have a second stiffness. In one or more

embodiments, the second stiffness may be greater than the first stiffness. Illustratively, first housing tube portion 220 may comprise a first material having a first stiffness. In one or more embodiments, second housing tube portion 230 may comprise a second material having a second stiffness. Illustratively, the second stiffness may be greater than the first stiffness.

In one or more embodiments, first housing tube portion 220 may comprise one or more apertures configured to produce a first stiffness of first housing tube portion 220. Illustratively, second housing tube portion 230 may comprise a solid portion of housing tube 200 having a second stiffness. In one or more embodiments, the second stiffness may be greater than the first stiffness. Illustratively, first housing tube portion 220 may comprise one or more apertures configured to produce a first stiffness of first housing tube portion 220. In one or more embodiments, second housing tube portion 230 may comprise one or more apertures configured to produce a second stiffness of second housing tube portion 230. Illustratively, the second stiffness may be greater than the first stiffness.

In one or more embodiments, first housing tube portion 220 may comprise a plurality of slits configured to separate one or more solid portions of housing tube 200. Illustratively, a plurality of slits may be cut, e.g., laser cut, into first housing tube portion 220. In one or more embodiments, first housing tube portion 220 may comprise a plurality of slits configured to minimize a force of friction between housing tube 200 and a cannula, e.g., as housing tube 200 is inserted into the cannula or as housing tube 200 is extracted from the cannula. For example, each slit of the plurality of slits may comprise one or more arches configured to minimize a force of friction between housing tube 200 and a cannula.

FIG. 2C illustrates an angled view of housing tube 200. Illustratively, an optic fiber 250 may be disposed within housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments, optic fiber 250 may be disposed within housing tube 200 wherein an optic fiber distal end 251 may be adjacent to housing tube distal end 201. Illustratively, optic fiber 250 may be disposed within housing tube 200 wherein a portion of optic fiber 250 may be adjacent to a portion of first housing tube portion 220. In one or more embodiments, a portion of optic fiber 250 may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube 200, e.g., by a biocompatible adhesive or any other suitable means.

FIG. 3 is a schematic diagram illustrating an exploded view of a steerable laser probe assembly 300. In one or more embodiments, a steerable laser probe assembly 300 may comprise a handle 100, a housing tube 200 having a housing tube distal end 201 and a housing tube proximal end 202, an optic fiber 250 having an optic fiber distal end 251 and an optic fiber proximal end 252, a pivot pin 310, an actuation lever 320 having an actuation lever distal end 321 and an actuation lever proximal end 322, and a light source interface 330. Illustratively, light source interface 330 may be configured to interface with optic fiber proximal end 252. In one or more embodiments, light source interface 330 may comprise a standard light source connector, e.g., an SMA connector.

Illustratively, actuation lever 320 may comprise a pivot pin guide 325. In one or more embodiments, pivot pin 310 may be disposed within pivot pin housing 130 and pivot pin guide 325. Illustratively, pivot pin 310 may be configured to fix a portion of actuation lever 320 to a portion of handle 100. In one or more embodiments, pivot pin 310 may be fixed in a position within pivot pin housing 130. For example, pivot pin 310 may be fixed in a position within pivot pin housing 130, e.g., by an adhesive or any other suitable fixation means.

Illustratively, housing tube 200 may be fixed to handle 100, e.g., housing tube proximal end 202 may be fixed to handle

distal end 101. In one or more embodiments, housing tube 200 may be fixed to handle 100, e.g., by an adhesive or any suitable fixation means. Illustratively, optic fiber 250 may be disposed within inner bore 140, actuation channel 120, inner bore distal chamber 150, optic fiber guide 160, and housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments, optic fiber 250 may be disposed within housing tube 200 wherein optic fiber distal end 251 may be adjacent to housing tube distal end 201. Illustratively, a portion of optic fiber 250 may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube 200, e.g., by a biocompatible adhesive or by any other suitable fixation means.

In one or more embodiments, a portion of optic fiber 250 may be fixed to a portion of actuation lever 320, e.g., a portion of optic fiber 250 may be fixed to actuation lever proximal end 322. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 320 may be configured to actuate actuation lever 320, e.g., within actuation channel 120. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 320 may be configured to rotate actuation lever 320 about pivot pin 310. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 320 may be configured to rotate actuation lever distal end 321 and actuation lever proximal end 322 about pivot pin 310, e.g., in a clockwise direction. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 320 may be configured to actuate actuation lever distal end 321 away from handle proximal end 102 and configured to actuate actuation lever proximal end 322 towards handle proximal end 102. For example, an application of a force to actuation lever 320 may be configured to retract actuation lever proximal end 322 relative to handle base 110.

Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever proximal end 322 towards handle proximal end 102, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever 320, may be configured to retract optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments, a retraction of optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200 may be configured to cause optic fiber 250 to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 200. Illustratively, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 200 may be configured to gradually compress a portion of housing tube 200, e.g., a first housing tube portion 220 of housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments, a gradual compression of a portion of housing tube 200 may be configured to cause housing tube 200 to gradually curve. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube 200 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 250.

In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320 may be configured to actuate actuation lever 320, e.g., within actuation channel 120. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320 may be configured to rotate actuation lever 320 about pivot pin 310. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320 may be configured to rotate actuation lever distal end 321 and actuation lever proximal end 322 about pivot pin 310, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320 may be configured to actuate actuation lever distal end 321 towards handle proximal end 102 and configured to actuate actuation lever proximal end 322 away from handle proximal end 102. For example, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320 may be configured to extend actuation lever proximal end 322 relative to handle base 110.

In one or more embodiments, an actuation of actuation lever proximal end 322 away from handle proximal end 102, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320, may be configured to extend optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200. Illustratively, an extension of optic fiber

FIG. 4C illustrates an optic fiber in a second curved position 420. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 320, e.g., in a clockwise direction about pivot pin 310, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 250. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 320, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever 320, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 250. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 320 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 250 from an optic fiber in a first curved position 410 to an optic fiber in a second curved position 420. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 320 may be configured to gradually retract optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments,

FIG. 4E illustrates an optic fiber in a fourth curved position 440. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 320, e.g., in a clockwise direction about pivot pin 310, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 250. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 320, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever 320, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 250. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 320 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 250 from an optic fiber in a third curved position 430 to an optic fiber in a fourth curved position 440. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 320 may be configured to gradually retract optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments, a gradual retraction of optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200 may be configured to cause optic fiber 250 to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 200. Illustratively, an

application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube **200** may be configured to compress a first housing tube portion **220** of housing tube **200**. In one or more embodiments, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube **200** may be configured to gradually curve housing tube **200**. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube **200** may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber **250**, e.g., from an optic fiber in a third curved position **430** to an optic fiber in a fourth curved position **440**. For example, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end **251** may be parallel to a line tangent to housing tube proximal end **202**, e.g., when optic fiber **250** comprises an optic fiber in a fourth curved position **440**.

In one or more embodiments, one or more properties of a steerable laser probe may be adjusted to attain one or more desired steerable laser probe features. For example, a stiffness of first housing tube portion **220** or a stiffness of second housing tube portion **230** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **320** configured to curve housing tube **200** to a particular curved position. Illustratively, a material comprising first housing tube portion **220** or a material comprising second housing tube portion **230** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **320** configured to curve housing tube **200** to a particular curved position.

In one or more embodiments, a number of apertures in housing tube **200** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **320** configured to curve housing tube **200** to a particular curved position. Illustratively, a location of one or more apertures in housing tube **200** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **320** configured to curve housing tube **200** to a particular curved position. In one or more embodiments, a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube **200** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **320** configured to curve housing tube **200** to a particular curved position. Illustratively, a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube **200** may be uniform, e.g., each aperture of the one or more apertures may have a same geometry. In one or more embodiments, a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube **200** may be non-uniform, e.g., a first aperture in housing tube **200** may have a first geometry and a second aperture in housing tube **200** may have a second geometry.

Illustratively, a geometry or shape of actuation lever **320** may be adjusted to vary an amount actuation of actuation lever **320** configured to curve housing tube **200** to a particular curved position. In one or more embodiments, one or more locations within housing tube **200** wherein optic fiber **250** may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube **200** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **320** configured to curve housing tube **200** to a particular curved position. Illustratively, at least a portion of optic fiber **250** may be enclosed in an optic fiber sleeve configured to, e.g., protect optic fiber **250**, vary a stiffness of optic fiber **250**, vary an optical property of optic fiber **250**, etc. For example, a portion of optic fiber **250** that may be fixed to actuation lever **320**, e.g., at actuation lever proximal end **322**, may be enclosed in an optic fiber sleeve configured to, e.g., protect optic fiber **250**, facilitate a fixation, etc. In one or more embodiments, a portion of optic fiber **250** that may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube **200** may be enclosed in an optic fiber sleeve configured to, e.g., protect optic fiber **250**, facilitate a fixation, etc. Illustratively, a portion of housing tube **200** may comprise an access window, e.g., configured to allow access to an inner portion of housing tube **200**. In one or more embodiments, a portion of housing tube **200** may comprise an access window, e.g., configured to allow access to a portion of optic fiber **250**.

Illustratively, a stiffness of first housing tube portion **220** or a stiffness of second housing tube portion **230** may be adjusted to vary a bend radius of housing tube **200**. In one or more embodiments, a stiffness of first housing tube portion **220** or a stiffness of second housing tube portion **230** may be adjusted to vary a radius of curvature of housing tube **200**, e.g., when housing tube **200** is in a particular curved position. Illustratively, a number of apertures in housing tube **200** may be adjusted to vary a bend radius of housing tube **200**. In one or more embodiments, a number of apertures in housing tube **200** may be adjusted to vary a radius of curvature of housing tube **200**, e.g., when housing tube **200** is in a particular curved position. Illustratively, a location or a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube **200** may be adjusted to vary a bend radius of housing tube **200**. In one or more embodiments, a location or a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube **200** may be adjusted to vary a radius of curvature of housing tube **200**, e.g., when housing tube **200** is in a particular curved position.

FIGS. **5A**, **5B**, **5C**, **5D**, and **5E** illustrate a gradual straightening of an optic fiber **250**. FIG. **5A** illustrates a fully curved optic fiber **500**. In one or more embodiments, optic fiber **250** may comprise a fully curved optic fiber **500**, e.g., when actuation lever proximal end **322** is fully retracted relative to handle base **110**. Illustratively, optic fiber **250** may comprise a fully curved optic fiber **500**, e.g., when first housing tube portion **220** is fully compressed. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end **251** may be parallel to a line tangent to housing tube proximal end **202**, e.g., when optic fiber **250** comprises a fully curved optic fiber **500**.

FIG. **5B** illustrates an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position **510**. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever **320**, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin **310**, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber **250**. For example, an actuation of actuation lever **320**, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever **320**, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber **250**. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever **320** may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber **250** from a fully curved optic fiber **500** to an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position **510**. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever **320** may be configured to gradually extend optic fiber **250** relative to housing tube **200**. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of optic fiber **250** relative to housing tube **200** may be configured to cause optic fiber **250** to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube **200**. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube **200** may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion **220** of housing tube **200**. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube **200** may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube **200**. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube **200** may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber **250**, e.g., from a fully curved optic fiber **500** to an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position **510**. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end **251** may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end **202** at a first partially straightened angle, e.g., when optic fiber **250** comprises an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position **510**. Illustratively, the first partially straightened angle may comprise any angle less than 180 degrees. For example, the first partially straightened angle may comprise a 135 degree angle.

FIG. **5C** illustrates an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position **520**. Illustratively, an actuation of

actuation lever 320, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin 310, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 320, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250 from an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 510 to an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 520. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320 may be configured to gradually extend optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200 may be configured to cause optic fiber 250 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 200. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 200 may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion 220 of housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 200 may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube 200. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube 200 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250, e.g., from an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 510 to an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 520. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 251 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 202 at a second partially straightened angle, e.g., when optic fiber 250 comprises an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 520. Illustratively, the second partially straightened angle may comprise any angle less than the first partially straightened angle. For example, the second partially straightened angle may comprise a 90 degree angle.

FIG. 5D illustrates an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 530. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 320, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin 310, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 320, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250 from an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 520 to an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 530. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320 may be configured to gradually extend optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200 may be configured to cause optic fiber 250 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 200. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 200 may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion 220 of housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 200 may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube 200. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube 200 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250, e.g., from an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 520 to an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 530. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 251 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 202 at a third partially straightened angle, e.g., when optic fiber 250 comprises an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 530. Illustratively, the third partially straight-

ened angle may comprise any angle less than the second partially straightened angle. For example, the third partially straightened angle may comprise a 45 degree angle.

FIG. 5E illustrates an optic fiber in a fully straightened position 540. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 320, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin 310, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 320, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250 from an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 530 to an optic fiber in a fully straightened position 540. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 320 may be configured to gradually extend optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of optic fiber 250 relative to housing tube 200 may be configured to cause optic fiber 250 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 200. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 200 may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion 220 of housing tube 200. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 200 may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube 200. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube 200 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 250, e.g., from an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 530 to an optic fiber in a fully straightened position 540. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 251 may be parallel to a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 202, e.g., when optic fiber 250 comprises an optic fiber in a fully straightened position 540.

Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 251 at any of a plurality of targets within an eye, e.g., to perform a photocoagulation procedure. In one or more embodiments, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 251 at any target within a particular transverse plane of the inner eye by, e.g., rotating handle 100 to orient housing tube 200 in an orientation configured to cause a curvature of housing tube 200 within the particular transverse plane of the inner eye and varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever 320. Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 251 at any target within a particular sagittal plane of the inner eye by, e.g., rotating handle 100 to orient housing tube 200 in an orientation configured to cause a curvature of housing tube 200 within the particular sagittal plane of the inner eye and varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever 320. In one or more embodiments, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 251 at any target within a particular frontal plane of the inner eye by, e.g., varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever 320 to orient a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 251 wherein the line tangent to optic fiber distal end 251 is within the particular frontal plane of the inner eye and rotating handle 100. Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 251 at any target located outside of the particular transverse plane, the particular sagittal plane, and the particular frontal plane of the inner eye, e.g., by varying a rotational orientation of handle 100 and varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever 320. In one or more embodiments, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 251 at any target of a plurality of targets within an eye, e.g., without increasing a length of a portion of a steerable laser probe within the eye. Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 251 at

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any target of a plurality of targets within an eye, e.g., without decreasing a length of a portion of a steerable laser probe within the eye.

FIGS. 6A and 6B are schematic diagrams illustrating a handle 600. FIG. 6A illustrates a top view of handle 600. Illustratively, handle 600 may comprise a handle distal end 601 and a handle proximal end 602. In one or more embodiments, handle 600 may comprise a handle base 610, an actuation channel 620 having an actuation channel distal end 621 and an actuation channel proximal end 622, and a pivot pin housing 630. FIG. 6B illustrates a cross-sectional view of handle 600. Illustratively, handle 600 may comprise an inner bore 640, an inner bore distal chamber 650, and an optic fiber guide 660. Handle 600 may be manufactured from any suitable material, e.g., polymers, metals, metal alloys, etc., or from any combination of suitable materials.

FIGS. 7A, 7B, and 7C are schematic diagrams illustrating a housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, housing tube 700 may comprise a housing tube distal end 701 and a housing tube proximal end 702. Housing tube 700 may be manufactured from any suitable material, e.g., polymers, metals, metal alloys, etc., or from any combination of suitable materials. FIG. 7A illustrates a housing tube 700 oriented to illustrate a first housing tube portion 720. Illustratively, first housing tube portion 720 may have a first stiffness. FIG. 7B illustrates a housing tube 700 oriented to illustrate a second housing tube portion 730. Illustratively, second housing tube portion 730 may have a second stiffness. In one or more embodiments, the second stiffness may be greater than the first stiffness. Illustratively, first housing tube portion 720 may comprise a first material having a first stiffness. In one or more embodiments, second housing tube portion 730 may comprise a second material having a second stiffness. Illustratively, the second stiffness may be greater than the first stiffness.

In one or more embodiments, first housing tube portion 720 may comprise one or more apertures configured to produce a first stiffness of first housing tube portion 720. Illustratively, second housing tube portion 730 may comprise a solid portion of housing tube 700 having a second stiffness. In one or more embodiments, the second stiffness may be greater than the first stiffness. Illustratively, first housing tube portion 720 may comprise one or more apertures configured to produce a first stiffness of first housing tube portion 720. In one or more embodiments, second housing tube portion 730 may comprise one or more apertures configured to produce a second stiffness of second housing tube portion 730. Illustratively, the second stiffness may be greater than the first stiffness.

In one or more embodiments, first housing tube portion 720 may comprise a plurality of slits configured to separate one or more solid portions of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a plurality of slits may be cut, e.g., laser cut, into first housing tube portion 720. In one or more embodiments, first housing tube portion 720 may comprise a plurality of slits configured to minimize a force of friction between housing tube 700 and a cannula, e.g., as housing tube 700 is inserted into the cannula or as housing tube 700 is extracted from the cannula. For example, each slit of the plurality of slits may comprise one or more arches configured to minimize a force of friction between housing tube 700 and a cannula.

FIG. 7C illustrates an angled view of housing tube 700. Illustratively, an optic fiber 750 may be disposed within housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, optic fiber 750 may be disposed within housing tube 700 wherein an optic fiber distal end 751 is adjacent to housing tube distal end 701. Illustratively, optic fiber 750 may be disposed within housing tube 700 wherein a portion of optic fiber 750 may be adjacent

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to a portion of first housing tube portion 720. In one or more embodiments, a portion of optic fiber 750 may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube 700, e.g., by a biocompatible adhesive or any other suitable means.

Illustratively, a wire 740 may be disposed within housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, wire 740 may be disposed within housing tube 700 wherein a wire distal end 741 may be adjacent to housing tube distal end 701. Illustratively, wire 740 may be disposed within housing tube 700 wherein a portion of wire 740 may be adjacent to a portion of first housing tube portion 720. In one or more embodiments, a portion of wire 740 may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube 700, e.g., by a biocompatible adhesive or any other suitable fixation means.

FIG. 8 is a schematic diagram illustrating an exploded view of a steerable laser probe assembly 800. In one or more embodiments, a steerable laser probe assembly 800 may comprise a handle 600, a housing tube 700 having a housing tube distal end 701 and a housing tube proximal end 702, a wire 740 having a wire distal end 741 and a wire proximal loop 742, an optic fiber 750 having an optic fiber distal end 751 and an optic fiber proximal end 752, a pivot pin 810, an actuation lever 820 having an actuation lever distal end 821 and an actuation lever proximal end 822, and a light source interface 830. Illustratively, light source interface 830 may be configured to interface with optic fiber proximal end 752. In one or more embodiments, light source interface 830 may comprise a standard light source connector, e.g., an SMA connector.

Illustratively, actuation lever 820 may comprise a pivot pin guide 825. In one or more embodiments, pivot pin 810 may be disposed within pivot pin housing 630 and pivot pin guide 825. Illustratively, pivot pin 810 may be configured to fix a portion of actuation lever 820 to a portion of handle 600. In one or more embodiments, pivot pin 810 may be fixed in a position within pivot pin housing 630. For example, pivot pin 810 may be fixed in a position within pivot pin housing 630, e.g., by an adhesive or any other suitable fixation means.

Illustratively, housing tube 700 may be fixed to handle 600, e.g., housing tube proximal end 702 may be fixed to handle distal end 601. In one or more embodiments, housing tube 700 may be fixed to handle 600, e.g., by an adhesive or any suitable fixation means. Illustratively, actuation lever 820 may comprise a wire proximal loop housing 826. In one or more embodiments, wire proximal loop 742 may be disposed within wire proximal loop housing 826. Illustratively, wire proximal loop 742 may be fixed within wire proximal loop housing 826, e.g., by an adhesive or any suitable fixation means. In one or more embodiments, a portion of actuation lever 820 may be disposed within wire proximal loop 742, e.g., wire proximal loop 742 may be looped around a portion of actuation lever 820. Illustratively, wire 740 may be disposed within actuation channel 620, inner bore distal chamber 650, optic fiber guide 660, and housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, wire 740 may be disposed within housing tube 700 wherein wire distal end 741 may be adjacent to housing tube distal end 701. Illustratively, wire 740 may be disposed within housing tube 700 wherein a portion of wire 740 may be adjacent to a portion of first housing tube portion 720. In one or more embodiments, a portion of wire 740 may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube 700, e.g., by a biocompatible adhesive or by any other suitable fixation means.

Illustratively, optic fiber 750 may be disposed within inner bore 640, actuation channel 620, inner bore distal chamber 650, optic fiber guide 660, and housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, optic fiber 750 may be disposed within housing tube 700 wherein optic fiber distal end 751 may be



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adjacent to housing tube distal end 701. Illustratively, a portion of optic fiber 750 may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube 700, e.g., by a biocompatible adhesive or by any other suitable fixation means.

In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 820 may be configured to actuate actuation lever 820, e.g., within actuation channel 620. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 820 may be configured to rotate actuation lever 820 about pivot pin 810. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 820 may be configured to rotate actuation lever distal end 821 and actuation lever proximal end 822 about pivot pin 810, e.g., in a clockwise direction. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 820 may be configured to actuate actuation lever distal end 821 away from handle proximal end 602 and configured to actuate actuation lever proximal end 822 towards handle proximal end 602. For example, an application of a force to actuation lever 820 may be configured to retract actuation lever proximal end 822 relative to handle base 610.

Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever proximal end 822 towards handle proximal end 602, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever 820, may be configured to retract wire 740 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a retraction of wire 740 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause wire 740 to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually compress a portion of housing tube 700, e.g., a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual compression of a portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to cause housing tube 700 to gradually curve. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750.

In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820 may be configured to actuate actuation lever 820, e.g., within actuation channel 620. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820 may be configured to rotate actuation lever 820 about pivot pin 810. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820 may be configured to rotate actuation lever distal end 821 and actuation lever proximal end 822 about pivot pin 810, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820 may be configured to actuate actuation lever distal end 821 towards handle proximal end 602 and configured to actuate actuation lever proximal end 822 away from handle proximal end 602. For example, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820 may be configured to extend actuation lever proximal end 822 relative to handle base 610.

In one or more embodiments, an actuation of actuation lever proximal end 822 away from handle proximal end 602, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820, may be configured to extend wire 740 relative to housing tube 700. Illustratively, an extension of wire 740 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause wire 740 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually decompress a portion of housing tube 700, e.g., a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual decompression of a portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to cause housing tube 700 to gradually straighten. In one or more embodiments, a gradual straightening of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750.

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FIGS. 9A, 9B, 9C, 9D, and 9E illustrate a gradual curving of an optic fiber 750. FIG. 9A illustrates a straight optic fiber 900. In one or more embodiments, optic fiber 750 may comprise a straight optic fiber 900, e.g., when actuation lever proximal end 822 is fully extended relative to handle base 610. Illustratively, optic fiber 750 may comprise a straight optic fiber 900, e.g., when first housing tube portion 720 is fully decompressed. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may be parallel to a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises a straight optic fiber 900.

FIG. 9B illustrates an optic fiber in a first curved position 910. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., in a clockwise direction about pivot pin 810, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever 820, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 820 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750 from a straight optic fiber 900 to an optic fiber in a first curved position 910. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 820 may be configured to gradually retract wire 740 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual retraction of wire 740 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause wire 740 to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to compress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750, e.g., from a straight optic fiber 900 to an optic fiber in a first curved position 910. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702 at a first angle, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a first curved position 910. Illustratively, the first angle may comprise any angle greater than zero degrees. For example, the first angle may comprise a 45 degree angle.

FIG. 9C illustrates an optic fiber in a second curved position 920. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., in a clockwise direction about pivot pin 810, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever 820, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 820 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750 from an optic fiber in a first curved position 910 to an optic fiber in a second curved position 920. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 820 may be configured to gradually retract wire 740 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual retraction of wire 740 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause wire 740 to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to compress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750, e.g., from an optic fiber in a first curved position 910 to an optic fiber in a second curved position 920.

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In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end **751** may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end **702** at a second angle, e.g., when optic fiber **750** comprises an optic fiber in a second curved position **920**. Illustratively, the second angle may comprise any angle greater than the first angle. For example, the second angle may comprise a 90 degree angle.

FIG. 9D illustrates an optic fiber in a third curved position **930**. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever **820**, e.g., in a clockwise direction about pivot pin **810**, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber **750**. For example, an actuation of actuation lever **820**, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever **820**, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber **750**. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever **820** may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber **750** from an optic fiber in a second curved position **920** to an optic fiber in a third curved position **930**. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever **820** may be configured to gradually retract wire **740** relative to housing tube **700**. In one or more embodiments, a gradual refraction of wire **740** relative to housing tube **700** may be configured to cause wire **740** to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube **700**. Illustratively, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube **700** may be configured to compress a first housing tube portion **720** of housing tube **700**. In one or more embodiments, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube **700** may be configured to gradually curve housing tube **700**. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube **700** may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber **750**, e.g., from an optic fiber in a second curved position **920** to an optic fiber in a third curved position **930**. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end **751** may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end **702** at a third angle, e.g., when optic fiber **750** comprises an optic fiber in a third curved position **930**. Illustratively, the third angle may comprise any angle greater than the second angle. For example, the third angle may comprise a 135 degree angle.

FIG. 9E illustrates an optic fiber in a fourth curved position **940**. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever **820**, e.g., in a clockwise direction about pivot pin **810**, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber **750**. For example, an actuation of actuation lever **820**, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever **820**, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber **750**. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever **820** may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber **750** from an optic fiber in a third curved position **930** to an optic fiber in a fourth curved position **940**. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever **820** may be configured to gradually retract wire **740** relative to housing tube **700**. In one or more embodiments, a gradual retraction of wire **740** relative to housing tube **700** may be configured to cause wire **740** to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube **700**. Illustratively, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube **700** may be configured to compress a first housing tube portion **720** of housing tube **700**. In one or more embodiments, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube **700** may be configured to gradually curve housing tube **700**. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube **700** may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber **750**, e.g., from an optic fiber in a third curved position **930** to an optic fiber in a fourth curved position **940**. For example, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end **751** may be

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parallel to a line tangent to housing tube proximal end **702**, e.g., when optic fiber **750** comprises an optic fiber in a fourth curved position **940**.

In one or more embodiments, one or more properties of a steerable laser probe may be adjusted to attain one or more desired steerable laser probe features. For example, a stiffness of first housing tube portion **720** or a stiffness of second housing tube portion **730** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **820** configured to curve housing tube **700** to a particular curved position. Illustratively, a material comprising first housing tube portion **720** or a material comprising second housing tube portion **730** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **820** configured to curve housing tube **700** to a particular curved position.

In one or more embodiments, a number of apertures in housing tube **700** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **820** configured to curve housing tube **700** to a particular curved position. Illustratively, a location of one or more apertures in housing tube **700** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **820** configured to curve housing tube **700** to a particular curved position. In one or more embodiments, a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube **700** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **820** configured to curve housing tube **700** to a particular curved position. Illustratively, a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube **700** may be uniform, e.g., each aperture of the one or more apertures may have a same geometry. In one or more embodiments, a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube **700** may be non-uniform, e.g., a first aperture in housing tube **700** may have a first geometry and a second aperture in housing tube **700** may have a second geometry.

Illustratively, a geometry or shape of actuation lever **820** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **820** configured to curve housing tube **700** to a particular curved position. In one or more embodiments, one or more locations within housing tube **700** wherein wire **740** may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube **700** may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever **820** configured to curve housing tube **700** to a particular curved position. Illustratively, a portion of wire **740** may be fixed to an outer portion of housing tube **700**. In one or more embodiments, a portion of wire **740** may be looped around a portion of housing tube **700**. For example, wire proximal loop **742** may be adjusted to comprise a straight portion of wire **740**. Illustratively, a portion of housing tube **700** may comprise an access window, e.g., configured to allow access to an inner portion of housing tube **700**. In one or more embodiments, a portion of housing tube **700** may comprise an access window, e.g., configured to allow access to a portion of optic fiber **750** or a portion of wire **740**. Illustratively, at least a portion of optic fiber **750** may be enclosed in an optic fiber sleeve configured to, e.g., protect optic fiber **750**, vary a stiffness of optic fiber **750**, vary an optical property of optic fiber **750**, etc.

In one or more embodiments, a stiffness of first housing tube portion **720** or a stiffness of second housing tube portion **730** may be adjusted to vary a bend radius of housing tube **700**. Illustratively, a stiffness of first housing tube portion **720** or a stiffness of second housing tube portion **730** may be adjusted to vary a radius of curvature of housing tube **700**, e.g., when housing tube **700** is in a particular curved position. In one or more embodiments, a number of apertures in housing tube **700** may be adjusted to vary a bend radius of housing tube **700**. Illustratively, a number of apertures in housing tube **700** may be adjusted to vary a radius of curvature of housing tube **700**, e.g., when housing tube **700** is in a particular curved

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position. In one or more embodiments, a location or a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube 700 may be adjusted to vary a bend radius of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a location or a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube 700 may be adjusted to vary a radius of curvature of housing tube 700, e.g., when housing tube 700 is in a particular curved position.

FIGS. 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D, and 10E illustrate a gradual straightening of an optic fiber 750. FIG. 10A illustrates a fully curved optic fiber 1000. In one or more embodiments, optic fiber 750 may comprise a fully curved optic fiber 1000, e.g., when actuation lever proximal end 822 is fully retracted relative to handle base 610. Illustratively, optic fiber 750 may comprise a fully curved optic fiber 1000, e.g., when first housing tube portion 720 is fully compressed. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may be parallel to a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises a fully curved optic fiber 1000.

FIG. 10B illustrates an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1010. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin 810, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750 from a fully curved optic fiber 1000 to an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1010. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820 may be configured to gradually extend wire 740 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of wire 740 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause wire 740 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750, e.g., from a fully curved optic fiber 1000 to an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1010. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702 at a first partially straightened angle, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1010. Illustratively, the first partially straightened angle may comprise any angle less than 180 degrees. For example, the first partially straightened angle may comprise a 135 degree angle.

FIG. 10C illustrates an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1020. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin 810, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750 from an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1010 to an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1020. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever

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820 may be configured to gradually extend wire 740 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of wire 740 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause wire 740 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750, e.g., from an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1010 to an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1020. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702 at a second partially straightened angle, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1020. Illustratively, the second partially straightened angle may comprise any angle less than the first partially straightened angle. For example, the second partially straightened angle may comprise a 90 degree angle.

FIG. 10D illustrates an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 1030. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin 810, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750 from an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1020 to an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 1030. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820 may be configured to gradually extend wire 740 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of wire 740 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause wire 740 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750, e.g., from an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1020 to an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 1030. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702 at a third partially straightened angle, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 1030. Illustratively, the third partially straightened angle may comprise any angle less than the second partially straightened angle. For example, the third partially straightened angle may comprise a 45 degree angle.

FIG. 10E illustrates an optic fiber in a fully straightened position 1040. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin 810, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 820, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 820, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to

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actuation lever **820** may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber **750** from an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position **1030** to an optic fiber in a fully straightened position **1040**. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever **820** may be configured to gradually extend wire **740** relative to housing tube **700**. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of wire **740** relative to housing tube **700** may be configured to cause wire **740** to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube **700**. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube **700** may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion **720** of housing tube **700**. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube **700** may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube **700**. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube **700** may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber **750**, e.g., from an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position **1030** to an optic fiber in a fully straightened position **1040**. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end **751** may be parallel to a line tangent to housing tube proximal end **702**, e.g., when optic fiber **750** comprises an optic fiber in a fully straightened position **1040**.

Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end **751** at any of a plurality of targets within an eye, e.g., to perform a photocoagulation procedure. In one or more embodiments, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end **751** at any target within a particular transverse plane of the inner eye by, e.g., rotating handle **600** to orient housing tube **700** in an orientation configured to cause a curvature of housing tube **700** within the particular transverse plane of the inner eye and varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever **820**. Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end **751** at any target within a particular sagittal plane of the inner eye by, e.g., rotating handle **600** to orient housing tube **700** in an orientation configured to cause a curvature of housing tube **700** within the particular sagittal plane of the inner eye and varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever **820**. In one or more embodiments, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end **751** at any target within a particular frontal plane of the inner eye by, e.g., varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever **820** to orient a line tangent to optic fiber distal end **751** wherein the line tangent to optic fiber distal end **751** is within the particular frontal plane of the inner eye and rotating handle **600**. Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end **751** at any target located outside of the particular transverse plane, the particular sagittal plane, and the particular frontal plane of the inner eye, e.g., by varying a rotational orientation of handle **600** and varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever **820**. In one or more embodiments, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end **751** at any target of a plurality of targets within an eye, e.g., without increasing a length of a portion of a steerable laser probe within the eye. Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end **751** at any target of a plurality of targets within an eye, e.g., without decreasing a length of a portion of a steerable laser probe within the eye.

FIGS. **11A** and **11B** are schematic diagrams illustrating a handle **1100**. FIG. **11A** illustrates a top view of handle **1100**. Illustratively, handle **1100** may comprise a handle distal end **1101** and a handle proximal end **1102**. In one or more embodiments, handle **1100** may comprise a handle base **1110**, an actuation channel **1120** having an actuation channel distal end **1121** and an actuation channel proximal end **1122**, and a pivot pin housing **1130**. FIG. **11B** illustrates a cross-sectional view of handle **1100**. Illustratively, handle **1100** may comprise a pulley mechanism housing **1135**, an inner

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bore **1140**, an inner bore distal chamber **1150**, and an optic fiber guide **1160**. Handle **1100** may be manufactured from any suitable material, e.g., polymers, metals, metal alloys, etc., or from any combination of suitable materials.

FIG. **12** is a schematic diagram illustrating an exploded view of a steerable laser probe assembly **1200**. In one or more embodiments, a steerable laser probe assembly **1200** may comprise a handle **1100**, a housing tube **700** having a housing tube distal end **701** and a housing tube proximal end **702**, an optic fiber **750** having an optic fiber distal end **751** and an optic fiber proximal end **752**, a pulley mechanism **1205**, a pivot pin **1210**, an actuation lever **1220** having an actuation lever distal end **1221** and an actuation lever proximal end **1222**, a draw wire **1240** having a draw wire distal end **1241** and a draw wire proximal end **1242**, and a light source interface **830**. Illustratively, light source interface **830** may be configured to interface with optic fiber proximal end **752**. In one or more embodiments, light source interface **830** may comprise a standard light source connector, e.g., an SMA connector.

Illustratively, actuation lever **1220** may comprise a pivot pin guide **1225**. In one or more embodiments, pivot pin **1210** may be disposed within pivot pin housing **1130** and pivot pin guide **1225**. Illustratively, pivot pin **1210** may be configured to fix a portion of actuation lever **1220** to a portion of handle **1100**. In one or more embodiments, pivot pin **1210** may be fixed in a position within pivot pin housing **1130**. For example, pivot pin **1210** may be fixed in a position within pivot pin housing **1130**, e.g., by an adhesive or any other suitable fixation means.

Illustratively, housing tube **700** may be fixed to handle **1100**, e.g., housing tube proximal end **702** may be fixed to handle distal end **1101**. In one or more embodiments, housing tube **700** may be fixed to handle **1100**, e.g., by an adhesive or any suitable fixation means. Illustratively, housing tube **700** may comprise a first housing tube portion **720** having a first stiffness and a second housing tube portion **730** having a second stiffness. In one or more embodiments, the second stiffness may be greater than the first stiffness.

Illustratively, pulley mechanism **1205** may be disposed within pulley mechanism housing **1135**. In one or more embodiments, pulley mechanism **1205** may be configured to change a direction of an applied force, e.g., a force applied to draw wire **1240**. For example, pulley mechanism **1205** may comprise any suitable mechanism configured to change a direction of an applied force. Illustratively, pulley mechanism **1205** may be configured to change a point of application of an applied force, e.g., by changing a direction of an applied force. For example, pulley mechanism **1205** may be configured to change a direction and a point of application of an applied force, e.g., a force applied to draw wire **1240**. In one or more embodiments, pulley mechanism **1205** may comprise a rod configured to change a direction of an applied force, e.g., a force applied to draw wire **1240**. For example, pulley mechanism **1205** may comprise a rod configured to change a point of application of an applied force, e.g., a force applied to draw wire **1240**. Illustratively, pulley mechanism **1205** may comprise one or more channels configured to, e.g., interface with a portion of draw wire **1240**. In one or more embodiments, a portion of pulley mechanism **1205** may be coated with a lubricant, e.g., Teflon, configured to minimize a force of friction between pulley mechanism **1205** and draw wire **1240**. Illustratively, pulley mechanism **1205** may be configured to rotate, e.g., to change a direction of an applied force, or a portion of pulley mechanism **1205**, e.g., a wheel, may be configured to rotate, e.g., to change a direction of an applied force. For example, pulley mechanism **1205** or a portion of

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pulley mechanism 1205 may be configured to change a point of application of an applied force, e.g., a force applied to draw wire 1240. In one or more embodiments, pulley mechanism 1205 may be configured to remain in static equilibrium, e.g., not to rotate, to change a direction of an applied force, e.g., a force applied to draw wire 1240. For example, a change in a direction of an applied force may be configured to change one or more points of application of the applied force. Illustratively, a portion of pulley mechanism 1205 may be configured to house a portion of optic fiber 750.

In one or more embodiments, draw wire proximal end 1242 may be fixed to actuation lever proximal end 1222. Illustratively, draw wire proximal end 1242 may be fixed to actuation lever proximal end 1222, e.g., by an adhesive or any other suitable fixation means. Illustratively, actuation lever 1220 may comprise a draw wire proximal end housing 1226. In one or more embodiments, draw wire proximal end 1242 may be fixed within draw wire proximal end housing 1226, e.g., by an adhesive or any suitable fixation means.

Illustratively, a portion of draw wire 1240 may comprise a draw wire loop 1245. In one or more embodiments, pulley mechanism 1205 may be disposed within draw wire loop 1245. For example, draw wire loop 1245 may be looped around pulley mechanism 1205. Illustratively, draw wire 1240 may be disposed within inner bore 1140, actuation channel 1120, inner bore distal chamber 1150, optic fiber guide 1160, and housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, draw wire 1240 may be disposed within housing tube 700 wherein draw wire distal end 1241 may be adjacent to housing tube distal end 701. Illustratively, draw wire 1240 may be disposed within housing tube 700 wherein a portion of draw wire 1240 may be adjacent to a portion of first housing tube portion 720. In one or more embodiments, a portion of draw wire 1240 may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube 700, e.g., by a biocompatible adhesive or by any other suitable fixation means.

Illustratively, optic fiber 750 may be disposed within inner bore 1140, actuation channel 1120, inner bore distal chamber 1150, optic fiber guide 1160, and housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, optic fiber 750 may be disposed within housing tube 700 wherein optic fiber distal end 751 may be adjacent to housing tube distal end 701. Illustratively, a portion of optic fiber 750 may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube 700, e.g., by a biocompatible adhesive or by any other suitable fixation means.

In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to actuate actuation lever 1220, e.g., within actuation channel 1120. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to rotate actuation lever 1220 about pivot pin 1210. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to rotate actuation lever distal end 1221 and actuation lever proximal end 1222 about pivot pin 1210, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to actuate actuation lever distal end 1221 towards handle proximal end 1102 and configured to actuate actuation lever proximal end 1222 away from handle proximal end 1102. For example, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to extend actuation lever proximal end 1222 relative to handle base 1110. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to extend draw wire proximal end 1242 relative to handle proximal end 1102.

Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever proximal end 1222 away from handle proximal end 1102, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever 1220, may be config-

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ured to extend draw wire proximal end 1242 relative to handle proximal end 1102. For example, an actuation of actuation lever proximal end 1222 away from handle proximal end 1102 may be configured to pull draw wire proximal end 1242 away from handle proximal end 1102. In one or more embodiments, pulley mechanism 1205 may be configured to change a direction and a point of application of a force configured to extend draw wire proximal end 1242 relative to handle proximal end 1102. Illustratively, pulley mechanism may 1205 be configured to change a direction and a point of application of a force from a force configured to extend draw wire proximal end 1242 relative to handle proximal end 1102 to a force configured to retract draw wire distal end 1241 relative to handle proximal end 1102. In one or more embodiments, an actuation of actuation lever proximal end 1222 away from handle proximal end 1102 may be configured to retract draw wire distal end 1241 towards handle proximal end 1102. Illustratively, an extension of actuation lever proximal end 1222 and draw wire proximal end 1242 relative to handle proximal end 1102 may be configured to retract draw wire 1240, e.g., to retract draw wire distal end 1241, relative to housing tube 700.

In one or more embodiments, a retraction of draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause draw wire 1240 to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually compress a portion of housing tube 700, e.g., a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual compression of a portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to cause housing tube 700 to gradually curve. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750.

In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to actuate actuation lever 1220, e.g., within actuation channel 1120. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to rotate actuation lever 1220 about pivot pin 1210. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to rotate actuation lever distal end 1221 and actuation lever proximal end 1222 about pivot pin 1210, e.g., in a clockwise direction. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to actuate actuation lever distal end 1221 away from handle proximal end 1102 and configured to actuate actuation lever proximal end 1222 towards proximal end 1102. For example, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to retract actuation lever proximal end 1222 relative to handle base 1110. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to retract draw wire proximal end 1242 relative to handle proximal end 1102.

Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever proximal end 1222 towards handle proximal end 1102, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220, may be configured to retract draw wire proximal end 1242 relative to handle proximal end 1102. In one or more embodiments, pulley mechanism 1205 may be configured to change a direction and a point of application of a force configured to retract draw wire proximal end 1242 relative to handle proximal end 1102. Illustratively, pulley mechanism may 1205 be configured to change a direction and a point of application of a force from a force configured to retract draw wire proximal end 1242 relative to handle proximal end 1102 to a force configured to extend draw wire distal end 1241 relative to handle proximal end 1102. In one or more embodiments, an actua-

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tion of actuation lever proximal end 1222 towards handle proximal end 1102 may be configured to extend draw wire distal end 1241 away from handle proximal end 1102. Illustratively, a retraction of actuation lever proximal end 1222 and draw wire proximal end 1242 relative to handle proximal end 1102 may be configured to extend draw wire 1240, e.g., to extend draw wire distal end 1241, relative to housing tube 700.

In one or more embodiments, an extension of draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause draw wire 1240 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually decompress a portion of housing tube 700, e.g., a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual decompression of a portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to cause housing tube 700 to gradually straighten. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750.

FIGS. 13A, 13B, 13C, 13D, and 13E illustrate a gradual curving of an optic fiber 750. FIG. 13A illustrates a straight optic fiber 1300. In one or more embodiments, optic fiber 750 may comprise a straight optic fiber 1300, e.g., when actuation lever proximal end 1222 is fully retracted relative to handle base 1110. Illustratively, optic fiber 750 may comprise a straight optic fiber 1300, e.g., when first housing tube portion 720 is fully decompressed. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may be parallel to a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises a straight optic fiber 1300.

FIG. 13B illustrates an optic fiber in a first curved position 1310. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin 1210, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever 1220, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750 from a straight optic fiber 1300 to an optic fiber in a first curved position 1310. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually retract draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual retraction of draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause draw wire 1240 to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to compress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750, e.g., from a straight optic fiber 1300 to an optic fiber in a first curved position 1310. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702 at a first angle, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a first curved position 1310. Illustratively, the first angle may comprise any angle greater than zero degrees. For example, the first angle may comprise a 45 degree angle.

FIG. 13C illustrates an optic fiber in a second curved position 1320. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin 1210, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., due to an

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application of a force to actuation lever 1220, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750 from an optic fiber in a first curved position 1310 to an optic fiber in a second curved position 1320. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually retract draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual retraction of draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause draw wire 1240 to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to compress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750, e.g., from an optic fiber in a first curved position 1310 to an optic fiber in a second curved position 1320. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702 at a second angle, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a second curved position 1320. Illustratively, the second angle may comprise any angle greater than the first angle. For example, the second angle may comprise a 90 degree angle.

FIG. 13D illustrates an optic fiber in a third curved position 1330. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin 1210, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever 1220, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750 from an optic fiber in a second curved position 1320 to an optic fiber in a third curved position 1330. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually retract draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual retraction of draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause draw wire 1240 to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to compress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750, e.g., from an optic fiber in a second curved position 1320 to an optic fiber in a third curved position 1330. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702 at a third angle, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a third curved position 1330. Illustratively, the third angle may comprise any angle greater than the second angle. For example, the third angle may comprise a 135 degree angle.

FIG. 13E illustrates an optic fiber in a fourth curved position 1340. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., in a counter-clockwise direction about pivot pin 1210, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., due to an application of a force to actuation lever 1220, may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750. In one or more

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embodiments, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750 from an optic fiber in a third curved position 1330 to an optic fiber in a fourth curved position 1340. Illustratively, an application of a force to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually retract draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual retraction of draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause draw wire 1240 to apply a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to compress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, an application of a compressive force to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual curving of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually curve optic fiber 750, e.g., from an optic fiber in a third curved position 1330 to an optic fiber in a fourth curved position 1340. For example, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may be parallel to a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a fourth curved position 1340.

In one or more embodiments, one or more properties of a steerable laser probe may be adjusted to attain one or more desired steerable laser probe features. For example, a stiffness of first housing tube portion 720 or a stiffness of second housing tube portion 730 may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever 1220 configured to curve housing tube 700 to a particular curved position. Illustratively, a material comprising first housing tube portion 720 or a material comprising second housing tube portion 730 may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever 1220 configured to curve housing tube 700 to a particular curved position.

In one or more embodiments, a number of apertures in housing tube 700 may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever 1220 configured to curve housing tube 700 to a particular curved position. Illustratively, a location of one or more apertures in housing tube 700 may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever 1220 configured to curve housing tube 700 to a particular curved position. In one or more embodiments, a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube 700 may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever 1220 configured to curve housing tube 700 to a particular curved position. Illustratively, a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube 700 may be uniform, e.g., each aperture of the one or more apertures may have a same geometry. In one or more embodiments, a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube 700 may be non-uniform, e.g., a first aperture in housing tube 700 may have a first geometry and a second aperture in housing tube 700 may have a second geometry.

Illustratively, a geometry or shape of actuation lever 1220 may be adjusted to vary an amount actuation of actuation lever 1220 configured to curve housing tube 700 to a particular curved position. In one or more embodiments, one or more locations within housing tube 700 wherein draw wire 1240 may be fixed to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be adjusted to vary an amount of actuation of actuation lever 1220 configured to curve housing tube 700 to a particular curved position. Illustratively, a portion of draw wire 1240 may be fixed to an outer portion of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a portion of draw wire 1240 may be looped around a portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a portion of housing tube 700 may comprise an access window, e.g., configured to allow access to an inner portion of housing

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tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a portion of housing tube 700 may comprise an access window, e.g., configured to allow access to a portion of optic fiber 750 or a portion of draw wire 1240. Illustratively, at least a portion of optic fiber 750 may be enclosed in an optic fiber sleeve configured to, e.g., protect optic fiber 750, vary a stiffness of optic fiber 750, vary an optical property of optic fiber 750, etc.

In one or more embodiments, a stiffness of first housing tube portion 720 or a stiffness of second housing tube portion 730 may be adjusted to vary a bend radius of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a stiffness of first housing tube portion 720 or a stiffness of second housing tube portion 730 may be adjusted to vary a radius of curvature of housing tube 700, e.g., when housing tube 700 is in a particular curved position. In one or more embodiments, a number of apertures in housing tube 700 may be adjusted to vary a bend radius of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a number of apertures in housing tube 700 may be adjusted to vary a radius of curvature of housing tube 700, e.g., when housing tube 700 is in a particular curved position. In one or more embodiments, a location or a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube 700 may be adjusted to vary a bend radius of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a location or a geometry of one or more apertures in housing tube 700 may be adjusted to vary a radius of curvature of housing tube 700, e.g., when housing tube 700 is in a particular curved position.

FIGS. 14A, 14B, 14C, 14D, and 14E illustrate a gradual straightening of an optic fiber 750. FIG. 14A illustrates a fully curved optic fiber 1400. In one or more embodiments, optic fiber 750 may comprise a fully curved optic fiber 1400, e.g., when actuation lever proximal end 1222 is fully extended relative to handle base 1110. Illustratively, optic fiber 750 may comprise a fully curved optic fiber 1400, e.g., when first housing tube portion 720 is fully compressed. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may be parallel to a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises a fully curved optic fiber 1400.

FIG. 14B illustrates an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1410. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., in a clockwise direction about pivot pin 1210, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750 from a fully curved optic fiber 1400 to an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1410. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually extend draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause draw wire 1240 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750, e.g., from a fully curved optic fiber 1400 to an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1410. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702 at a



first partially straightened angle, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1410. Illustratively, the first partially straightened angle may comprise any angle less than 180 degrees. For example, the first partially straightened angle may comprise a 135

FIG. 14C illustrates an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1420. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., in a clockwise direction about pivot pin 1210, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750 from an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1410 to an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1420. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually extend draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause draw wire 1240 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750, e.g., from an optic fiber in a first partially straightened position 1410 to an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1420. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702 at a second partially straightened angle, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1420. Illustratively, the second partially straightened angle may comprise any angle less than the first partially straightened angle. For example, the second partially straightened angle may comprise a 90 degree angle.

FIG. 14D illustrates an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 1430. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., in a clockwise direction about pivot pin 1210, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750 from an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1420 to an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 1430. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually extend draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause draw wire 1240 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube 700 may be configured

to gradually straighten optic fiber 750, e.g., from an optic fiber in a second partially straightened position 1420 to an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 1430. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may intersect a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702 at a third partially straightened angle, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 1430. Illustratively, the third partially straightened angle may comprise any angle less than the second partially straightened angle. For example, the third partially straightened angle may comprise a 45 degree angle.

FIG. 14E illustrates an optic fiber in a fully straightened position 1440. Illustratively, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., in a clockwise direction about pivot pin 1210, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. For example, an actuation of actuation lever 1220, e.g., due to a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220, may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750 from an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 1430 to an optic fiber in a fully straightened position 1440. Illustratively, a reduction of a force applied to actuation lever 1220 may be configured to gradually extend draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a gradual extension of draw wire 1240 relative to housing tube 700 may be configured to cause draw wire 1240 to reduce a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700. Illustratively, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to decompress a first housing tube portion 720 of housing tube 700. In one or more embodiments, a reduction of a compressive force applied to an inner portion of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten housing tube 700. Illustratively, a gradual straightening of housing tube 700 may be configured to gradually straighten optic fiber 750, e.g., from an optic fiber in a third partially straightened position 1430 to an optic fiber in a fully straightened position 1440. In one or more embodiments, a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 may be parallel to a line tangent to housing tube proximal end 702, e.g., when optic fiber 750 comprises an optic fiber in a fully straightened position 1440.

Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 751 at any of a plurality of targets within an eye, e.g., to perform a photocoagulation procedure. In one or more embodiments, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 751 at any target within a particular transverse plane of the inner eye by, e.g., rotating handle 1100 to orient housing tube 700 in an orientation configured to cause a curvature of housing tube 700 within the particular transverse plane of the inner eye and varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever 1220. Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 751 at any target within a particular sagittal plane of the inner eye by, e.g., rotating handle 1100 to orient housing tube 700 in an orientation configured to cause a curvature of housing tube 700 within the particular sagittal plane of the inner eye and varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever 1220. In one or more embodiments, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 751 at any target within a particular frontal plane of the inner eye by, e.g., varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever 1220 to orient a line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 wherein the line tangent to optic fiber distal end 751 is within the particular frontal plane of the inner eye and rotating handle 1100. Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end 751 at any target located outside of the particular transverse plane, the particular sagittal plane, and the particular frontal plane of the inner eye, e.g., by varying a rotational



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orientation of handle **1100** and varying an amount of actuation of actuation lever **1220**. In one or more embodiments, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end **751** at any target of a plurality of targets within an eye, e.g., without increasing a length of a portion of a steerable laser probe within the eye. Illustratively, a surgeon may aim optic fiber distal end **751** at any target of a plurality of targets within an eye, e.g., without decreasing a length of a portion of a steerable laser probe within the eye.

The foregoing description has been directed to particular embodiments of this invention. It will be apparent; however, that other variations and modifications may be made to the described embodiments, with the attainment of some or all of their advantages. Specifically, it should be noted that the principles of the present invention may be implemented in any probe system. Furthermore, while this description has been written in terms of a steerable laser probe, the teachings of the present invention are equally suitable to systems where the functionality of actuation may be employed. Therefore, it is the object of the appended claims to cover all such variations and modifications as come within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. An instrument comprising:

- a handle having a handle distal end and a handle proximal end;
- an actuation channel of the handle, the actuation channel having an actuation channel distal end and an actuation channel proximal end wherein the actuation channel distal end is disposed between the handle distal end and the handle proximal end and the actuation channel proximal end is disposed between the handle distal end and the handle proximal end;
- an actuation lever having an actuation lever distal end and an actuation lever proximal end wherein the actuation lever proximal end is disposed in the actuation channel between the actuation channel distal end and the actuation channel proximal end and the actuation lever distal end extends out from the actuation channel;
- a pivot pin disposed in a pivot pin housing of the handle and a pivot pin guide of the actuation lever wherein the actuation lever is configured to rotate about the pivot in a first direction and a second direction;
- a housing tube having a housing tube distal end and a housing tube proximal end, the housing tube having dimensions configured to perform an ophthalmic surgical procedure;
- a first housing tube portion of the housing tube, the first housing tube portion having a first stiffness;
- a plurality of slits of the first housing tube portion, each slit of the plurality of slits having an arch configured to minimize a force of friction between the housing tube and a cannula;
- a second housing tube portion of the housing tube, the second housing tube portion having a second stiffness wherein the second stiffness is greater than the first stiffness;
- an optic fiber having an optic fiber distal end and an optic fiber proximal end, the optic fiber disposed in an inner bore of the handle and the housing tube wherein the optic fiber is fixed within an inner portion of the housing tube and the optic fiber distal end is adjacent to the housing tube distal end;
- a wire proximal loop housing of the actuation lever; and
- a wire having a wire distal end and a wire proximal loop, the wire disposed in the housing tube, the inner bore of the handle, and the wire proximal loop housing of the

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actuation lever wherein the wire is fixed within the inner portion of the housing tube and the wire distal end is adjacent to the optic fiber distal end and the housing tube distal end and wherein varying an amount of actuation of the actuation lever is configured to aim the optic fiber distal end at a surgical target within an eye without increasing a length of the instrument within the eye and without decreasing the length of the instrument within the eye.

2. The instrument of claim **1** wherein an actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the first direction is configured to gradually curve the optic fiber.

3. The instrument of claim **2** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the first direction is configured to gradually curve the housing tube.

4. The instrument of claim **3** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the first direction is configured to compress the first housing tube portion.

5. The instrument of claim **1** wherein an actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the second direction is configured to gradually straighten the optic fiber.

6. The instrument of claim **5** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the second direction is configured to gradually straighten the housing tube.

7. The instrument of claim **6** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the second direction is configured to decompress the first housing tube portion.

8. The instrument of claim **1** further comprising:  
an access window of the housing tube, the access window configured to allow access to the inner portion of the housing tube.

9. The instrument of claim **2** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the first direction is configured to gradually curve the optic fiber more than 90 degrees.

10. The instrument of claim **9** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the first direction is configured to gradually curve the optic fiber more than 135 degrees.

11. An instrument comprising:

- a handle having a handle distal end and a handle proximal end;
- an actuation channel of the handle, the actuation channel having an actuation channel distal end and an actuation channel proximal end wherein the actuation channel distal end is disposed between the handle distal end and the handle proximal end and the actuation channel proximal end is disposed between the handle distal end and the handle proximal end;
- an actuation lever having an actuation lever distal end and an actuation lever proximal end wherein the actuation lever proximal end is disposed in the actuation channel between the actuation channel distal end and the actuation channel proximal end and the actuation lever distal end extends out from the actuation channel;
- a pivot pin disposed in a pivot pin housing of the handle and a pivot pin guide of the actuation lever wherein the actuation lever is configured to rotate about the pivot in a first direction and a second direction;
- a housing tube having a housing tube distal end and a housing tube proximal end, the housing tube having dimensions configured to perform an ophthalmic surgical procedure;
- a first housing tube portion of the housing tube, the first housing tube portion having a first stiffness;

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a plurality of slits of the first housing tube portion, each slit of the plurality of slits having an arch configured to minimize a force of friction between the housing tube and a cannula;

a second housing tube portion of the housing tube, the second housing tube portion having a second stiffness wherein the second stiffness is greater than the first stiffness;

an optic fiber having an optic fiber distal end and an optic fiber proximal end, the optic fiber disposed in an inner bore of the handle and the housing tube wherein the optic fiber is fixed within an inner portion of the housing tube and the optic fiber distal end is adjacent to the housing tube distal end;

a pulley mechanism of the handle;

and a draw wire having a draw wire distal end and a draw wire proximal end, the draw wire distal end disposed in the housing tube and the draw wire proximal end disposed in a draw wire proximal end housing of the actuation lever wherein the draw wire is fixed within the inner portion of the housing tube and the draw wire distal end is adjacent to the optic fiber distal end and the housing tube distal end and wherein varying an amount of actuation of the actuation lever is configured to aim the optic fiber distal end at a surgical target within an eye without increasing a length of the instrument within the eye and without decreasing the length of the instrument within the eye.

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**12.** The instrument of claim **11** wherein an actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the first direction is configured to gradually curve the optic fiber.

**13.** The instrument of claim **12** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the first direction is configured to gradually curve the optic fiber more than 90 degrees.

**14.** The instrument of claim **13** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the first direction is configured to gradually curve the optic fiber more than 135 degrees.

**15.** The instrument of claim **12** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the first direction is configured to gradually curve the housing tube.

**16.** The instrument of claim **15** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the first direction is configured to compress the first housing tube portion.

**17.** The instrument of claim **11** wherein an actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the second direction is configured to gradually straighten the optic fiber.

**18.** The instrument of claim **17** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the second direction is configured to gradually straighten the optic fiber more than 90 degrees.

**19.** The instrument of claim **18** wherein the actuation of the actuation lever about the pivot pin in the second direction is configured to gradually straighten the optic fiber more than 135 degrees.

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